

IBM's Market Strategies: 'Subtle and Sophisticated'

TULSA, Okla. — IBM's subtle predatory practices and strategies "may pose more danger" to modern industry than the more obvious aggressions of monopolists in earlier U.S. history, Judge A. Sherman Christensen said in his court's decision on the Telex-IBM antitrust case.

The computer field "appears unique in monopoly context by reason of its youth and apparent dynamics," Christensen said, but "this ultra-modern setting may be unprecedented also because of increased inducements for fear and vulnerability to sophisticated submarket control on the one hand and passive industrial espionage on the other."

Christensen noted that even within IBM it was assumed the firm had market power.

"The very predatory intent with which . . . its strategies were planned, as well as the nature and direction of its competitive responses, strongly suggest a

consciousness of market power and a determination to utilize it to the extent it was considered that could be done without a breach of its confidential plans or its becoming involved in legal difficulties."

But, Christensen added, "this is not to say there were any ruthless or nakedly aggressive programs contemplated or carried out; anything that was done by way of strategy was sophisticated, refined, highly organized and methodically pursued and considered."

"But in this day and age such conduct is hardly acceptable than the naked aggressions of yesterday's industrial power if unlawfully directed against competition."

The organized, selective, subtle and sophisticated approach, indeed, may pose more danger under modern conditions than instantly more obvious strategies," Christensen wrote.

In the computer field such as the computer area, he said, "antitrust applications and interpretations must not be inextricably

tied to entrenchments of long standing when the monopolization can be accomplished in modern context and particularly in such industries as the EDP industry by fast acting strategies and sophisticated tactics."

"It is no answer to say that this industry is the youngest in which monopolization has ever been found because it might also be said that here rewards from monopolization may be among the highest and the opportunity in view of its rapid technological and market developments perhaps among the greatest," he said.

"In this case, however, the arguments with regard to the plug-compatible manufacturers were just competitive responses which also be subtle ways of maintaining a monopoly, Christensen found."

"Claimed necessity of responding to competitive influences beyond the control of the alleged monopolist may be only its excuse for an anticompetitive conduct for the purpose of maintaining or extending monopoly power or to surmount threatened competition," he said.

"Sophistication of users or competitors may discourage monopoly but equal or greater sophistication on the part of the alleged monopolist, combined with certain factors and industry dynamics may continue in evidence through technological momentum beyond the inception of monopoly."

In applying the antitrust laws, especially to new or novel situations of the nature presented here," Christensen said, "courts should be especially sensitive to their broad policy, mindful of economic realities, and, in particular, hospitable to healthy economic practices and developments, inopportune toward subterfuge and pretense."

In addition, as he said, they should be "practical as well as vigilant, in avoiding control by mere custom, form, appearance or contrivance. Fair and reasonable business practice should be the watchword; predatory conduct a red flag; considerate judgment the measure and free and unfettered competition . . . the large objective."

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Independent Users: 'More Competition'

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"I'm pleased with the decision," said Bob Brainard, American Greetings Corp.'s director of DP. "I feel it would go this way because of market definition." He thought the decision would make for a better environment to work in. "It will remove inhibitions in the marketplace," he said, because "the rules of the game have changed."

"The IBM will certainly make IBM start playing a little fairer," agreed Robert Worthy, senior systems programmer with Bell Helicopter Co. "The whole industry will benefit."

Joseph Hare was another pleased user. "If it had gone the way it would have had to be, I think it would have continued as it has in the past," the First National Bank of Cleveland (Ohio) DP officer said.

A couple of users felt the financial award was too high, but the main dissenters agreed with Hawkins that the restrictions placed on IBM were too harsh.

Emily Peiper, director of DP, Rochester (N.Y.) Hospital Services, said, "I think IBM was guilty of indiscriminate pricing," but he stressed that he thought some parts of the ruling were unfair to IBM.

"Although the decision might prolong the life of the 360," one user said, "it will certainly retard the growth of the industry as a whole." He termed the judgment

as "pretty poor."

Better Equipment?

The survey asked, will the additional competition lead to lower prices on better or equal equipment?

"You bet," Worthy said, "because now IBM will be in the same situation as the independents have been right along with regard to what new peripherals are coming out." Jerry Hammer, DP supervisor, Getty Oil Co., does not foresee better equipment because "independents are supplying as good or better peripherals as IBM now, but predicted a price reduction on all sides."

"We should see some equally good equipment at lower prices," Jerry Kramer agreed. The Marathon Oil Co. computer manager also expects some short-term encroachment on IBM, such as fewer early announcements.

"Either faster technological advances or better pricing or both will result from this decision," Hawkins said.

Independent Revolutions?

Will independent peripherals be more attractive to users and upper-management be more open-minded to independent peripheral acquisition?

"Few people who have an IBM installation and receive an offer for 10% less

devices with competition while taking a larger one on products without competition, which in the long run could serve to lower the cost of data processing for all users.

But right now the full effect of the decision is hard to estimate fully. Certainly, no matter how its spokesmen talk, IBM will still remain the dominant force in this industry even if all of the provisions of the decision are upheld on appeal.

But, if the decision stands, the options offered by the competitors in the plug-compatible area should improve as the firms become more visible in the market.

The provision requiring IBM to release interface specifications at time of product announcement will allow the independents to reach the market with new products at the same time as IBM — which will give them a chance to profit on their systems from day one instead of waiting for alternatives to IBM.

The provision should also cut down on the practice of mid-life kickers to products that often served almost solely to confuse the marketplace — both from the user standpoint and the industry.

Separate pricing and uniform markups on functionally equivalent products will also serve to prohibit or cut down the IBM practice of taking a low profit on

than IBM prices will jump," stated Nick Suszynski, DP manager, Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. "Why rock the boat? Ten percent isn't that attractive," he said, "and certainly not attractive enough to outweigh IBM's proven reliability."

Even Out the Money

Joseph Dolden, director of computer services, department of administrative services (Georgia), feels financial institutions and not the computer industry itself has kept the independents where they are. "Smaller OEM and peripheral companies will now be able to present a stronger, more stable position to the marketplace," he said. "providing they can get the financial backing to do so."

Suszynski agreed, citing the jump in stock market prices for independents as proof. "Judging from the reaction of the marketplace," he said, "the people who are willing to put their money where their mouths are, are certainly changing their previous opinions in a hurry."

The survey indicated many users did not feel the decision would have a marked effect on IBM's position in the marketplace, though undoubtedly there would be some long-term consequences.

If the decision is such that it makes it easier for independent to compete, it might help them," Lathrop said, "but if it has no effect on IBM's marketing practices, I don't see how it is going to help the independents unless they all sue IBM and get rich that way."

No Drastic Changes

Brainard was of the same opinion, stating that if the decision had gone the other way it would have scared off many people from going independent, but this way he does not foresee any drastic changes in the market or in the quality tip of the market to the independent."

One overwhelming feeling indicated by the survey was one of benevolence toward the loser, summed up by Hawkins who said, "I don't want to kill IBM, I'd just like to see others live in the same world."

Next: IBM Will Seek a Reversal

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The next step will be the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals sitting in Denver, Colo., a court known among lawyers as eminently fair, even if somewhat conservative in antitrust actions.

The court will primarily look at the record of the case and based upon its past actions, is likely to uphold the trial

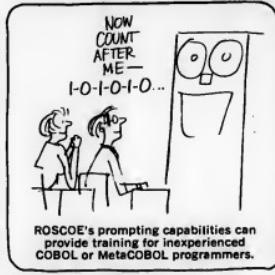
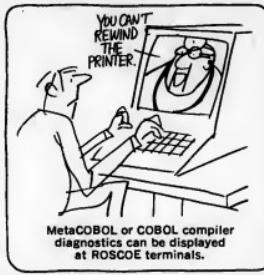
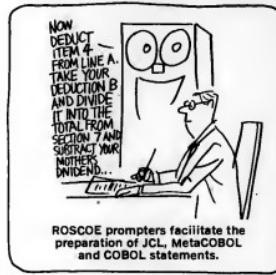
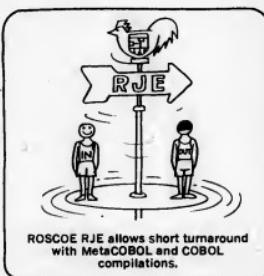
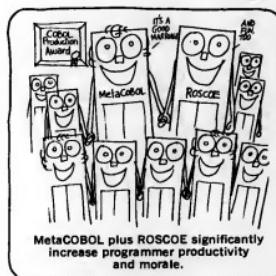
judge if it finds no irregularities in the way the case was handled," one legal source said.

Whichever way the appeals court rules, it is then almost certain the loser there will take the matter to the Supreme Court, which can either decide to hear the case or in effect uphold the Circuit Court by refusing to hear the motion.

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IBM 'Supporters' Call Ruling Justified, 'Healthy'

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feet. "It will take a little wind out of their sails (sales?)" Arshart is vice-president and EDP director for Super Foods Serving, Inc., Ohio.

"I like IBM pretty well, but I like to see competition to keep IBM on their toes," said Tom S. Gregg, DF director, independent port (Computer) Hospital. "That way I get a better IBM product. The healthier the other manufacturers are, the better it is for me."

George L. Thompson, director of computer applications at Olin Mathieson-Winchester Group, said: "The IBM ruling should set the arm for the plug-compatible industry. This means that peripheral manufacturing is now a viable industry and there will be a choice of IBM or non-IBM peripherals, a situation which faced extinction without the decision."

'Unfair' to IBM

Thompson, however, said he thought the penalty was a little high, a feeling expressed more

vociferously by three other users. "I don't think the decision was fair to IBM," noted Dennis Hartman, manager, systems programming, Colorado Computer Center, "because I don't think they were involved in monopolistic practices."

"I disagree with it," said Richard A. Janik, assistant vice-president, Datacom Services, Inc., "it's just hurting somebody for being good at their job. All it accomplished was to save a sinking ship from going under."

"I disagree with it," said Gordon Smith, assistant vice-president, operations, First National Bank & Trust, Tulsa, Okla. "It's good for IBM, too."

"Half the people in the business produce junk," Green stated, adding he wouldn't want to see any more competition unless it were "quality stuff."

Hartman agreed that quality is the only area for competition since "we've probably seen as much cost reduction as the market will bear."

Otherwise, the industry needs all the competition possible. "It's good for everybody," said Gordon Smith, assistant vice-president, operations, First National Bank & Trust, Tulsa, Okla. "And it's good for IBM, too."

Hang onto Leases

None of the users surveyed was anxious to take advantage of the opportunity to break his lease, largely because of the quality of service and equipment received.

Some, such as Richard G. Arshart, stated they had no reason to break their leases at the moment, and were "waiting for others to set a precedent."

"We would like to be able to get out of an agreement if IBM or someone else comes up with a technologically superior prod-

uct," said Dan E. Craft, DP methods and standards director, Jantzen, Inc. "Our main concern is the service function," he said, "and that's where IBM has got them all beat."

One user, who did not wish to be identified, said he would not return his new units, but "may think in terms of third-party financing." If that would not be feasible, "I may get out of it before two years," he said, "but not otherwise."

Quality Decision

Will the decision make independent peripherals more attractive to users? Most surveyors felt the decision would benefit the peripheral manufacturers, but indicated quality and performance would still be the deciding factor in new acquisitions.

"If the service problems can be solved, I'll be more interested in independent in the future," Arshart said.

Another vote for the independents came from Bob Steinmetz, programming supervisor, State Auto Mutual Insurance, Columbus, Ohio.

"Personally," he said, "I'm coming to the conclusion that these independent vendors — the equipment they put out — are comparable to IBM and a hell of a lot cheaper."

But, Richard Green noted, the independents might be attractive to some shop for a while, but not in the long run — "IBM will clothe them with quality."

In addition to indicating a general trend toward sticking it out with IBM, the survey revealed a number of other findings:

"I really don't know what the decision is going to do," said David J. Vincent, DP operations manager, Associated Grocers of Colorado. "But hopefully it won't set a precedent for everyone to go in and sue IBM, and hopefully it won't make Telex feel powerless."

"The thing that impressed me most was that the settlement was so favorable to IBM," said Paul Neale, assistant vice-president, Educator and Executive Insurers, Columbus, Ohio. "The implications (i.e., the bao on hiring ex-IBMers) there were more stringent," he said.

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IBM Won't Collect Lease Penalty Payments

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clear bow the judge arrived at the actual damages of \$117.5 million.

Actually, the judgment was based to some extent on internal IBM documents, according to Judge A. Sherman Christensen. There is "little room to question that the acts, conduct and intent" of IBM "caused substantial impact and damage to the business" of Telex, Christensen said.

But "as to any specific amounts of damages awardable in this case the evidence is less clear, and as justification for the sums awarded quite insufficient," he added.

Telex, he noted, relied on forecasts to come up with its figure of damages, but he said these forecasts might be unreliable.

"IBM's internal documents indicated that IBM calculated increased profits that would result from the adoption of the new Test Plan for leases, tapes, disks and printers to be \$466 million.

"Using the latter assumption

and considering that in 1970 Telex was installing approximately 53% of the non-IBM tape drives, competitive tape drives, 31% of disk drives and 100% of the plug-compatible impact printers, a calculated loss of market share from FTP would be \$218.7 million," the judge noted.

However, the judge thought IBM's calculations might be reasonable. After giving the test of reasonableness, he awarded Telex \$70 million for loss of market caused by IBM's predatory actions. Telex had originally requested \$257.7 million for loss due to deprivation of market share.

Telex was granted another \$39 million for depreciation of its investment at prepared turnoffs and \$10 million for bond losses not necessary to help highway planers determine which type of paving material would be best for certain roads.

The Weigh-In-Motion (WIM-1) system, manufactured by Uni-tech, Inc., includes a Nova 1200 computer, teletypewriter, line printer, visual display and a mag-

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The judge placed lost prof-

IBM Overreacts?

TULSA, Okla. — During his testimony in the Telex-IBM case, IBM Chairman Frank T. Cary told the court IBM had to react to Telex's actions and that it would be forced out of the peripherals marketplace.

However, Judge A. Sherman Christensen found this somewhat of an overstatement.

Cary's claim that "we obviously had to reduce our prices on tapes and disks" or go out of business is, "aside from its claim of competition and only attempted avoidance," stated factually, the judge said.

"IBM's plug-compatible competition in the disk and tape area did not threaten to drive IBM out of the business in those markets," he said, noting IBM itself predicted it would lose only 28.7% of those markets if it did not react to competition.

Trucks Keep on Trucking

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The judge placed lost prof-

its at \$8.5 million, after reducing the Telex request from \$11.3 million because of factors that were not directly related to the IBM price cuts and other predatory acts.

In total, therefore, the damages were placed at \$117.5 million

which is "a fair and reasonable approximation based on the evidence before the court," Cary said. The \$117.5 million in actual damages is automatically tripled in suits under the Sherman Antitrust Act for a total of \$352.5 million in this case.

State OKs Teale Talks

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The state's frustrating effort to find a vendor for the Stephen P. Teale consolidated computer center has taken a new twist with the legislature now authorizing negotiations instead of competitive bidding.

The legislature passed a law on the eve of its adjournment, which, if signed by the governor, will allow the Business and Transportation Agency to negotiate the contract for the initial implementation of the center.

The contract for the center is expected to be about \$40 million.

A spokesman for the state EDp office said the agency will negotiate with anyone, but vendors will have to make themselves known by Oct. 15.

An award will be made before the first of the year, he said.

The state tried twice without success to award the bid competitively. The first time the two bid finalists were disqualified. The second time there was only one bid — by IBM — and a law had required bids with at least two different frames.

IBM's Mini Close

NEWTON, Mass. — The anti-dumping investigation into IBM will probably be called the System/3 and will reportedly be manufactured in Japan and exported to other IBM markets. Tentative price for a typical system configuration is said to be about \$1,000/mo. Announcement date has been set "very soon" by IBM, industry sources believe.



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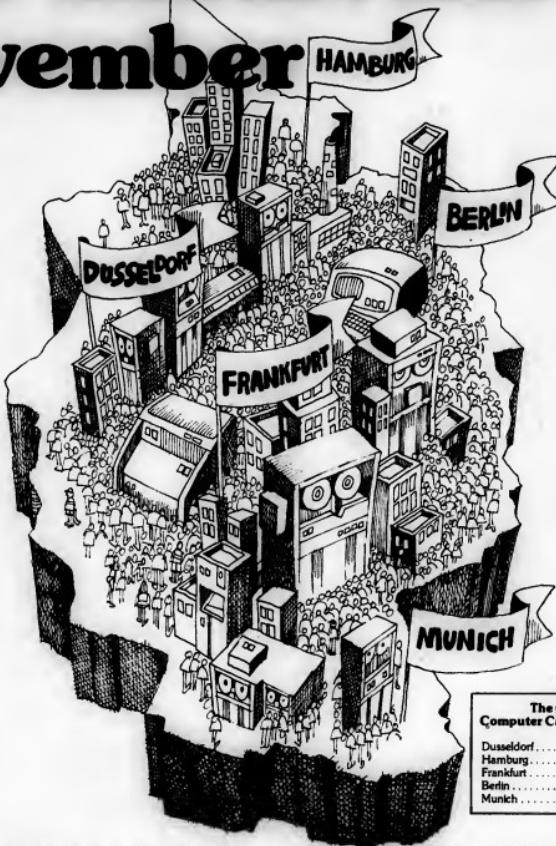
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In addition, he said, "the price reduction independent of cost on limited products in competition with plug-compatible suppliers was the primary purpose of the response."

At the same time, he said, "IBM camouflaged the 2319A price cut as a 'new' product for the purpose of avoiding a general price cut that would affect all of the 2314 subsystems, which would have reduced IBM's revenue stream of \$514 million a year on its installed disk base by approximately \$120 million per year."

There is no doubt, he said, "The 2319A price cut was designed by IBM management to contain the plug-compatible competition ... Its primary purpose was to maintain control of

the plug-compatible disk market for IBM. It was introduced by IBM with the specific purpose and intent of suppressing plug-compatible competition."

Ordinary Response?

At the same time, be noted, "IBM admits, indeed argues,"

All of the IBM practices during the time under consideration "have included an attempt to substantially constrain or destroy its plug-compatible peripheral competition by predatory pricing actions and by market strategy bearing no relationship to technological skill, industry, appropriate foresight or customer benefit."

The move was a response to competition, but added "its intent to maintain its monopoly by unlawful predatory conduct cannot be equated reasonably with an ordinary competitive response."

However, the 2319A announcement didn't have fully the desired effect, so IBM established another task force to see

how to better meet the competition, and this time upped IBM's bid further to cut the price in this area to produce "a very serious impact" on the profits of both Memorex and Telex, the judge said.

To do this, IBM offered the 2319 to the 360 System with the 2319B announcement — which will have substantial price cut over previous prices for the identical 2314 disk drives.

"The 2319B announcement was purely a price cut," the judge found. "The 2319B was

designed by IBM as a predatory action contrived to maintain its 94% control of the plug-compatible disk market," he added.

Long-Term Leases

"There seems little question but that in a different context, or directed to general competition, the leasing plans adopted by IBM might be unexceptional or entirely justified," Christensen said.

However, in the light of the

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Market Called Separate

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since for every product there is some substitute, but in the reality of the marketplace computer users compared disks against disks, tapes against tapes, etc.

The IBM theory of "supply substitutability" — i.e., IBM felt consumers in its product categories because of its price too high others would buy the busier — took even a harder blow.

Manufacturers who have existing technological capabilities or tooling to supply reasonably interchangeable products may effectively restrain the power of those in the market to raise prices." Christensen admitted.

"But," he said, "the evaluation of whether this is again dependent not upon mere theory but upon the reality, if any, of the effect of the potential in the marketplace.

A relevant market cannot be enlarged by theoretical speculation as to future market conditions. The potential substitutability having no substantial effect upon competition during a period in question."

Accepting the IBM view of the computer market, Christensen said, "would be designed to render Section 2 of the Sherman Act relatively innocuous and ineffective and would permit the defendant with impunity to continue to monopolize and attempt to dominate a relevant market and submarkets one by one by unilateral predatory actions until the entire industry could be irreparably demoralized."

"It would be a gross, sweeping and invalid generalization to say, as IBM contends, that 'it engaged in a predatory practice in sale of services of data processing systems,'" Christensen added.

"To treat defendant's peripheral products as immune from separate market consideration in view of the competition focused upon them would recognize an immunity in favor of IBM from the operation of the antitrust laws," he added.

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IBM Management Aimed to Destroy

(Continued from Page 8)

reality of the market, he found IBM was aiming those moves also at the plug-compatible competition alone.

Most of the planning for the long-term strategy was minimized "in terms of the impact that IBM action would have on IBM's plug-compatible competition," he noted.

The internal IBM projections show IBM would sustain some losses in revenues in the first few years of the program, but that in IBM's view, thought that FTF would be very profitable in the long run because losses from plug-compatible competition would be decreased and it would have more units out in the field for longer periods of time."

All of the benefits anticipated by IBM from this plan "revolved around the suppression of IBM's plug-compatible competition," he noted.

While IBM claims it only adopted the plans to be more competitive, Christensen said there is a "rather clear indication that its action was directed not at competition in an appropriate competitive sense but at competitors and their viability as such."

The evidence, he said, "demonstrates that IBM's fixed-term plan was generated and implemented at the time it was with the primary intent and purpose of destroying plug-compatible competition and to maintain its monopoly power."

All of the IBM practices during the time under consideration "have included an attempt to substantially constrain or destroy in plug-compatible peripheral competition by predatory pricing," he said. "It's a market strategy bearing no relationship to technological skill, industry, appropriate foresight or customer benefit," the judge found.

"But we find unconvincing the idea that separate markets or submarkets actually recognized by IBM itself in this dynamic and competitive environment could have been developed eventually from IBM's prior lawful domination of it; or that the objectives and planning of such a presently dominating force against the competition of the peripherals could somehow be deemed dissipated among lower echelons of this same organization. We consider it must be reflected in the competitive actions of top management, or that if reflected, should be held innocuous or futile, or at all events lawful, as competitive weapons," Christensen concluded.



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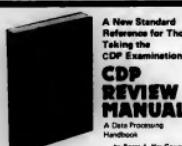
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Editorial**An End to Domination?**

The computer community — both users and the industry — is certain to benefit from Judge A. Sherman Christensen's ruling last week in the IBM-Telex case.

Christensen's scholarly findings in the case — if upheld on appeal — will serve to broaden competition in this previously dominated industry — and that competition will broaden the range of choices available to computer users as well as enable smaller firms in the business to prosper.

Computer users should hail the decision since it will eventually break what Christensen clearly saw as IBM's subtle domination of the computer industry — a domination he called dangerous.

This does not mean IBM will be forced out of the business or have to limit its role in the field. Instead, the decision just prohibits IBM from unfair marketing practices that are detrimental to the entire computer community.

Users will still be able to get their entire systems from IBM, if they so chose. But the range of choices will be more varied.

The products from the independent peripherals industry could also be better than in the past since the independents will be given all the specifications for planned IBM announcements. In advance, thus allowing them time to design their devices to meet those specifications.

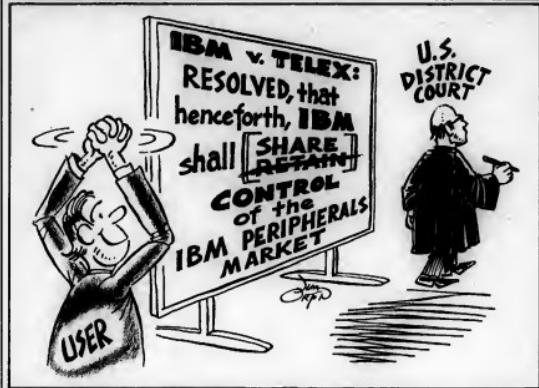
This lead time will allow them to bring their products to the market at the same time as IBM, thus giving the user a range of choices from the first day of a product's life, instead of having to wait years before choices are available.

A sweeping section of Christensen's ruling also prohibits IBM from predatory acts in general, which should give those users who have complained about some IBM practices in the past a more solid footing upon which to make their objections heard.

The decision against Telex on the counterclaim is also good for the industry, because industrial espionage has gone unchecked too long in the highly competitive independent peripherals market.

In all, we completely agree with Christensen in his summation of the case:

"...under the facts and the law of the case it has been concluded that plaintiff's (Telex's) complaint has required vindication in the manner provided above in justice to them and in aid of proper competition; that defendant's counterclaims similarly have required vindication in justice to it and in discouragement of improper competition."

**Consider Emulation Temporary**

By Rex Kerley

Special to Computerworld

The following is a Burroughs rebus but taken to an Aug. 22 Computerworld editorial entitled "The Horrors of Emulation."

Emulation can be considered in terms of practical reality, not in an academic environment. Formerly, emulation was considered merely a temporary procedure, to be used only for a short period of time (say six months), until the original programs for the replaced computer could be reprogrammed for the new computer. It was discovered, however, that such reprogramming was not always performed. Pertinent reasons include:

- No copy of original source (i.e., completely missing or lost/stolen/trashed).
- Original source incomplete (due to object-level patching without updating of symbolic source).
- No documentation of original program as to its exact purpose, specification or implementation.
- Original programmer no longer available (e.g., left the company).

• Takes too much time, so there might be an interim period with no facilities to run old programs, or no working and tested programs to run on new computer.

• Too expensive (e.g., several man-months of programming and testing).

• Technically infeasible (i.e., application is not suitable for emulation).

In reality, therefore, the motivation for reprogramming, as contrasted to emulation, is mainly of a financial nature, rather than pedantic "ivory-tower" axioms. Thus, from a practical viewpoint it may be advisable to continue emulating an old program on new hardware indefinitely.

We advocate no such plan at Burroughs. Our users (whom we believe to be intelligent users) should consider emulation as a temporary holding action pending some type of rework or updating of their computer application.

We realize the word emulation has been given a bad name by other vendors due to a variety of factors. The principle is that emula-

tion has been an "add-on" hardware "black box" type of process that has resulted in a less than satisfactory product to the computing community.

The Burroughs B1700 takes advantage of being a natural product of this bit-addressable, variable microprogrammable computer. The concept of digits, bytes or words to this computer is so artificial that it ceases to be a problem. ("Design of the B1700" by Dr. W.T. Wilner, AFIPS FJCC 1972 Vol. 1, pp. 489-497.) Once again, in this subject, we differ with others. Burroughs differs.

Would you criticize a manufacturer of movie projectors in having the ability to show the older 8mm movies in addition to showing the super 8mm size? The versatility of the B1700 design is providing our ever-growing user base with a unique way of utilizing present systems as yet having important options to upgrade those same systems at a time suitable to the user.

Rex Kerley is project leader in the Firmware Section, Software Systems Management Department, Santa Barbara Plant, Burroughs Corp.

Letters to the Editor**VS and CPU Usage**

The July 25 issue of Computerworld contained a very interesting report on the value of tuning VS systems. There was one item, however, that might unintentionally have misled readers. The study suggests a tuned system uses more CPU than an untuned one. For example, (after partial tuning) "the plain old VS system that we started with dropped the execution time to 56 minutes and the CPU utilization to 85%." Another test, bringing together both tuning efforts, resulted in execution times of the 3 jobs to drop 51 minutes, but the CPU utilization crept up to 88% again.

However, percentages here are misleading. At an 85% utilization rate for 56 minutes, 47.6 minutes of CPU are used. In effect, the tuning effort has compressed the net elapsed time

for the stream by better distributing demands on system resources. The absolute reduction in CPU time of about 6%, from 47.6 minutes to 44.9 minutes in VS environments probably came about by reduced paging and CPU translation in the VS system.

The only apparently surprising result is the figure of 88% utilization for 60 minutes on a tuned VS system with tuned jobs. However, the figure for the 3 jobs and untuned VS is not given and would normally be the standard of comparison for success in tuning VS.

Users should be aware, however, that other things being equal CPU usage will go up on a VS system because of paging overhead. As the tuning report shows, though, the increase in throughput makes this worthwhile.

David E.W. Serna
System Engineer

IBM Israel Ltd.
Tel Aviv, Israel

Pacific Was First'

Re the Aug. 29 article titled, "Colin, 15 Aug. Track 5000 Freight Cars":

Pacific was the first railroad to implement an on-line computer system using IBM's Team software package. This point was completely missed.

Also, the first paragraph implies that Union Pacific operates "thousands of trains per day" — an embarrassingly gross overstatement of fact.

A later sentence states: "The network includes 18 multi-drop AT&T lines in the East and 10 in the microwave segment owned by the railroad," while the system consists of 178 lines in total.

J.L. Jorgenson
Union Pacific Railroad Co.
Omaha, Neb.

Professional Practices

All-Inclusive Contracts Considered Good Practice

By J. Richard Fleming
Special to Computerworld

As a result of increased concern about the shoddy "standard" agreements put forth by computer companies, our organization has begun to incorporate a 12-point "Turnkey Agreement Framework" in requests for proposals submitted by our clients to computer companies.

Point three of the framework, for instance, asks the computer company to agree to include a statement incorporating all documents and communications such as system specifications, proposals, and oral representations into its final contract.

This is done because as a management consultant specializing in the field of information systems and computer technology, I am extensively involved with small-to-medium-size companies in their contractual relationships with numerous computer equipment or service companies. I have observed, first-hand, a number of situations similar to Alan Taylor's, which Alan Taylor recently characterized as a "Bait-and-Wait" arrangement.

(In fact, my firm is presently withholding its recommendation of a well-known computer company until we receive proper assurances from the chairman of the board that his company will act more responsibly in fulfilling its obligations to our clients. We have not yet seen the contract, nor a reply in the three months that have passed since we brought two specific client situations to his personal attention.)

We do not believe that the "Bait-and-Wait" approach is the planned policy of any reputable computer company. We do feel strongly, however, that the source of the problem is the "good faith" mismatch-type of agreement made so expertly by IBM, and which has been emulated by most others in the industry.

Unfortunately for many smaller companies involved with the first computer installation of their "turnkey" systems, "good faith" agreements get strained—and sometimes are broken.

It is at this point, when both the user and computer company have invested significant time in the effort, that we find more and more computer companies retreating to a defensive legal position in order to forestall po-

tential damage suits. This is accomplished by concurrent actions in:

- Increasing the level of visible support activities to get the equipment installed as quickly as possible. Equipment represents the tangible part of "good faith" agreements.
- Redefining the more tech-

nical aspects of "The Contract" as narrowly as possible. These technical terms are rarely spelled out in the original agreement. The user is severely handicapped technically and legally, unless he has some unusual amount of leverage or expertise.

In short, we find "Bait-and-Wait" occurs most frequently af-

ter a major problem has surfaced. The best way for a computer company to protect its investment is to push on with the installation while taking steps to limit its potential liability.

Because of these possibilities, we find we have to make our request for agreement to our

standard terms non-negotiable. Indeed, if a computer company will not agree to the reasonable contract conditions, its proposal is not given further consideration.

J. Richard Fleming is the president of Systems Planning Associates, Inc. in Westfield, N.J.)

Change in Disk Drives

Key to DOS/VS

By DOS/V... How Good Is It? [CW, Aug. 22]

I was apprised to find that in one of two lead articles on virtual DOS reported with residents DOS a test site reporting improved performance with virtual DOS had changed from eight 2314 disks to (presumably eight) 3330s.

This (in Armstrong Cork) reported its work week had been cut from six to five days; and its computer manager had a number of intelligent comments to make about the performance of DOS/VS. The article was well-written, on the whole, and quite informative—but to draw any conclusions about the comparative performance of DOS/VS—impossible! I would wager that the change from 2314s to 3330s alone, under "old" DOS, would have produced all of the "improvements" and possibly more (no time being wasted in address translation or paging).

Further, this information may have added core as well—I could not tell from the article whether "real" core had been increased from 256K to 384K. This should again have affected performance, though not as much, I would think, as the change in disk drives.

William Lee Valentine
New Orleans, La.

Charles Letterer, the DP manager, recognized that each of the changes made by Armstrong Cork affected—probably positively—the operation, but, as reported, his systems staff had not had time to run benchmarks to determine the actual degree of its effect. Armstrong went, incidentally, from eight 2314s to only six 3330 spindles.

Also, while Armstrong was a

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor

test site in IBM's eyes, Letterer was really using (and not specifically testing) the VS operating system. His overall impression, based on all the changes, was that DOS/VS "worked" for Armstrong. Ed.

Put Technicians In the Limelight!

CW's front page article regarding system's and data processing's need to "think like managers" (CW, Sept. 5) made me smile red!

It's all part of the same old story: we are not managers, we are technicians; we are not salesmen, we are technicians; we are not communicators, we are technicians.

When people like John L. Jones (Vice-president, Southern Railway) and Robert J. Mizell Jr. (Trust Co. of Georgia), and many other top execs, continue to chide for not being management-oriented, or for not involving top management, they are talking out of both sides of their mouths.

These same executive management types, out of sight, out of mind, by tucking us away under the aegis of the non-dedicated-to-DP organizations. We just might be able to learn to think like managers if we could get some top management exposure through an appropriate reporting level, instead of being tied to some internal department.

These critics of our management abilities should heed the dogma of their very own American Management Association: *you can delegate authority, but not responsibility*. Or conversely, don't hold responsible those from whom you have withheld authority.

Name Withheld
Upon Request
San Jose, Calif.

CW believes that information processing in most companies definitely warrants an organizational level equal to marketing or manufacturing. The problem is to get past the beancounters Ed.

'Get Job Done'

"Amen" to what John L. Jones said in the Sept. 5 issue! I have been preaching for years to "get the job done!" Management should be thinking along the lines set down by "unnamed" consulting firms.

The result is the rules of the game change, the user is frustrated waiting and no one is happy. By the time a year or more study is complete, the system could be up and running. Modular structure will enable changes to be made much more easily than "it will take a few months to redo."

It seems Southern Railway knows the way!

Edwin Seidman

Calcomp

Rosemont, Ill.

Those TSO Terminals

In the article on "Terminals Compatible With TSO Includes Teleprinters and CRTs" in the Aug. 27 issue, Ken Seidel openly admitted limited exposure and that "judgments are subjective and limited to those terminals actually available at a particular time." I would like to add the fact that a leading EDI publication published this article, Seidel is an "expert" on this subject whether or not he feels this way.

Many readers are likely to read this article in a less critical manner than someone in the terminal business. I suspect that a large percentage of the readers, I am sure, will walk away with the impression that there are only five TSO terminals.

tatsächlich, wenn in fact there are considerably more. An exact number is difficult to ascertain, but a conservative estimate is 25.

If Seidel should write again for Computerworld (and I hope he does), he should be more exhaustive in his analysis. Certainly, it would take an unreasonable amount of time to search out every TSO-compatible terminal but, one must agree, five is cutting it a little short.

William F. Tilley
Director of Marketing
Computer Devices, Inc.
Burlington, Mass.

There may indeed be more than 25 TSO-compatible terminals. Seidel's article would be most useful for people who had either reduced their selection to those particular terminals he studied for the Aug. 27 article, or who were looking for various characteristics found in typical TSO terminals. Ed.

Who Is That Man?

I have just finished reading the "Taylor Report" of Aug. 15, entitled "Symbols of Information Quality." I have long considered his column of questionable value, but this time I feel compelled to write and express my sentiments.

If Taylor continues to produce "garbage" of this type, I suggest he be given a long vacation and his allocated space given over to me to write. I would be happy to make notes regarding other important and interesting topics found elsewhere in the paper. That is unless the rumor I've heard is true—that Taylor is the brother-in-law of some important Computerworld executive.

Muneo Goto

Tokyo, Japan
We hear juicier rumors about Alan than that one almost every week. HG.

From Alan Taylor's Mailbag

Clerks and Firms Are at Fault, but Not the Computer

In Alan Taylor's Mailbag on Aug. 22, Richard M. Mendes reported he had been reportedly promised that BankAmericard would change his billing date, which was personally inconvenient, but then failed to do so—apparently because the built date had been built into the account number.

This raises two professional questions:

- ATMB 1: "What is the responsibility

The Taylor Report

By

Alan Taylor, CDP



of a firm whose

employees promise some action that does not then take place?" Should such consequences be punished?"

- ATMB 2: "Is the practice of including billing dates in account numbers all right?"

Here are some of the responses:

A billing date, as such, is not built into the account number. All accounts are assigned to a cycle. The cycle number determines the relative billing date.

In response to Mendes' request, the clerk should issue one transaction which would:

- Establish an account in a cycle with a billing date to suit the customer needs.
- Issue a new plastic card.

• Transfer the old balance to the new account.

• Transfer any charge which might come in under the old account number to the new account.

• Close out the old account.

Mendes' complaint is misguided. Neither the BankAmericard computer or system is at fault. His frustrating experience was caused by clerical error and can be corrected through proper training and supervision of customer service representatives.

C. Robinson
Senior Systems Analyst

Lake Success, N.Y.

Writing Most Valid Way

Without a written communication, how could a customer prove an employee promised anything? I know the frustration Mendes feels. (What consumer doesn't?) When calling a company or any representative, the customer should get the name of the employee with whom he is talking and, if the matter is serious enough to so warrant, write a letter reviewing the discussion and promises made and send it to the company as a follow-up.

In addition, the employee should be requested to send a letter, memo, etc. to

(Continued on Page 12)

Clerks and Firms Are at Fault, but Not the Computer

(Continued from Page 11)
the customer as confirmation of the discussion and to ensure complete understanding of the problem.

Robert B. Dickson
Manager, Data Processing

Fullerton, Calif.

Getting Some Air

Please for initiating Taylor's Mailbag. It will perform a much needed service. Although there may be some excellent ombudsman programs in operation, they lack the one ingredient which only someone like Alan Taylor can supply — the open-air forum of the press.

Regarding ATMB/1:

- Employees who *promise* action on a complaint or inequity in a billing system are acting in the best interest of their organization. The organization should therefore be fully responsible to initiate the promised action.
- A liquidated damages clause (\$100 for each billing cycle, for instance), as suggested in Taylor's comments would be

most effective, I'm sure. Nothing gets faster action than a potential reduction of profit. (I can see the systems people and programmers scrambling to make necessary changes to the system).

- Unfortunately, the liquidated damages scheme could run afoul of a rather simple change in procedures at Bankamerica (or any other organization). The damages must be linked to the misleading of customers.

By simply spelling out the billing scheme in the original agreement between credit card company and customer, the company avoids having to contend with damage suits and avoids having to make expensive systems and program alterations to inadequately conceived systems.

Ron Stewart
DP Organizational Consultant
Chicago, Ill.

Dates and Numbers

Regarding the second question — the point about whether billing dates should be included in account numbers — here

are two responses:

Ten years ago, I did the programming for a tape-oriented 1401 system for installment credit accounting — fixed contract, not revolving charge.

In the design specs for this system the billing date was both a low-order part of the account key and a standard character field item. Since many accounts had not been thoroughly controlled, many accounts differed from each other only in the billing date field. This meant that a change in billing date sometimes caused an account-key to leapfrog adjacent keys and create an out-of-sequence condition — sometimes including a duplicate-key condition.

Robert Higgins
West Chester, Pa.

ATB comments: Sounds like a bad case of Nukefenokey (Not OK if Not OK) to me.

Should Kodak Use Blue Box?

I don't know how Bankamerica assigns numbers, whether it's alphanumeric,

by territory, bank of deposit, class of account or whatever. But the chances are there is some very good control reason. Many firms use an alphanumeric system with automatic assignment of number by alphabet, which automatically keeps the cycles at approximately the same size.

In any case, why should Bankamerica change a system serving several hundred thousand for the whim of an individual? It makes about as much sense as insisting that Kodak use a blue box for its film because it's blue. It doesn't like yellow. Bankamerica has a sound program, and if Menders doesn't like it, why doesn't he just close his account?

- ATMB/3: Regarding the "billing date," it is merely the day on which statements are closed. There is nothing mysterious about the fact that it then takes a few days to enter the final day's transactions, to balance the cycle, pull out the one-cent balances, make last-minute address changes, combine certain accounts, insert in envelopes, add postage, sort by Zip Code and get to the post office.

V.T. Lorimer
Minneapolis, Minn.

ATB comments: The words "billing date" do have meaning in the English language. I would say that the statement closing date. Does the data processing profession have the right to alter the meanings of words? Please address any comments on this issue to Alan Taylor, Mailbag, 633 Central St., Framingham, Mass. 01701, using reference ATMB/3.

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Insurance Fraud Ring Based on Fake IDs And Phantom Cars

By Marguerite Zientara
Of the CW Staff

PHILADELPHIA — An insurance fraud ring based on phantom cars is being cracked slowly with the aid of computers.

The fraud, in which 36 arrests have been made, involves inventing a registration number for a nonexistent car, reporting the car stolen and collecting insurance, authorities said.

The scheme, centered in Philadelphia, was disclosed by investigators from the Pennsylvania State Police, the FBI and insurance companies.

The operation began in 1969, authorities said, and involves 450 nonexistent General Motors cars and millions of dollars in claims unwittingly paid by 13 insurance companies.

In the State Motor Vehicle Bureau at Harrisburg, a computer checks the vehicle identification number on each auto title application to determine if such a number is already registered. If it is, the computer rejects the application.

Number Key

The number, which includes a coded description of the car and a 6-digit identifier, is used to keep track of the forged work, investigators said. "These people are smart enough so that they know the coded prefix," said a private investigator retained by one of the insurance companies.

A spokesman for the Department of Revenue said most cases of nonexistent cars are discovered when the Department of Revenue receives a title history in "suspicious" situations. If a title history, which follows a car from the time it is manufactured to its arrival in any state, does not exist, then the car does not exist, according to the spokesman.

Analyst and Systems
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vital connection
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Random Notes

Checks Can Be Safeguarded By English 'Translation'

CANOGA PARK, Calif. - Checks produced by IBM's program translator in Assembler language, Cobol, can be protected against fraudulent alteration by having the amount spelled out in English as well as in its normal numeric format. "Translation" of the numeric data stored in the computer can be handled by a 75-line routine called JSCANTAL, now available from Joseph S. Lederer.

Maximum value that can be converted to English is \$99,999.99. The routine is activated through a simple CALL using parameters to identify a six-byte positive number, the location where the words will be formed and an indicator of the last permissible location in which the words may go. The routine may be ordered for \$75 from 6701 Vaud St., 90049.

Roscoe Adds Utility Subsystem

PRINCETON, N.J. - A utility subsystem for the Roscoe 360/370 remote programming system from Applied Data Research, Inc. (ADR), provides on-line OS/360/370 data set management to system programmers. The functions available with the new feature are comparable to those provided by TSO and batch utility programs from IBM, ADR said.

Working with a Roscoe terminal, a systems programmer can now allocate, catalog, rename, write and scratch data sets. He can also build, find and delete entries in the OS catalog. Roscoe sells for \$14,000 or leases for \$1,000/mo. ADR is at Route 206 Center, 08540.

Disk, Tape Conversion Offered

SANTA ANA, Calif. - IBM 360/370 users can convert data from magnetic disk drives to microfilm or microfiche format with the Datacom software, now available from Business Systems Division of Perceo Corp., for use with the company's 3700 computer output microfilm (COM) system.

Parameter cards define formatting requirements including report page and file layout. Data can be converted to index microfiche directly from user files, eliminating post-processing steps often associated with COM, the company said from 1712 Armstrong, 92705.

Service Aids Piping Testers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Engineers planning piping systems can work through terminals to define a proposed configuration, test it, make changes and retest before retiming with the Autoflex analysis service now available on the United Computing Systems, Inc. remote-computing network based at 3130 Broadway, 64111.

'Survival' Handbook Tells How Post-Installation Evaluation a Must

By Don Levitt
Of the CW Staff

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - Regardless of what system design and implementation plan are followed with a new application, the user and DP staff should be prepared, unless he is willing to risk a post-installation evaluation within a reasonable time after the application is in place and operational.

This rule-of-thumb applies, according to consultants Susan Wooldridge and Keith London, who say the system is more likely to be delivered on budget and delivered earlier if the user is prepared to risk a post-installation evaluation within a reasonable time after the application is in place and operational.

The rule-of-thumb applies, according to consultants Susan Wooldridge and Keith London, who say the system is more likely to be delivered on budget and delivered earlier if the user is prepared to risk a post-installation evaluation within a reasonable time after the application is in place and operational.

In their recently published *Computer Survival Handbook* (Gambit), the authors noted the amount of time which elapses between the start of live running and the formal evaluation depends on several factors. The most important, they added, is the processing cycle of the application.

The requirement is that the system should have been running long enough for

its effect to be seen, but not so long that the environment in which the system was supposed to operate has been changed.

The handbook abounds with light, conversational phrases used to describe system management attitudes and approaches. The authors decide, for example, various roadblocks that may prevent effective post-installation evaluations:

- The hornet's nest syndrome - otherwise known as "don't disturb the sleeping giant," and distinguished by the thought that "we don't want to wake up that blasted system in . . . You don't mean we'll have to go through it all again."
- The witch-hunt syndrome - otherwise known as "who wants to stick his neck on the chopping block." It's obvious to followers of this philosophy than an evaluation is a means to detect success or failure. If it is a failure, either the using department or the DP staff may block an effective investigation of the reasons for the failure.

- Forward, ever forward - DP resources are scarce and the users are busy, so no one wants to look back anyway!
- Lethargy - What the hell, anyway?

But if these obstacles are overcome, the user and DP staff may still have problems in running their post-installation evaluation. Wooldridge and London ask, for example:

• Why the system? If the system has been in operation a long time, many changes may have been made and the system modified out of all resemblance to its original form. In this case, should it be held together "with string and brown paper until it creeps worse than the one it replaced?"

• Evaluate against what? This is perhaps the most damning of all the reasons for not doing an evaluation, the authors warned, and can be used anytime there never was a formal, reasoned, quantified user request against which the system can be tested for success or failure.

If there was a user request and an evaluation is undertaken, the handbook asks, did the users and DP staffs can then ask:

- Did we meet the objectives and targets? Effective answers to this, however, presuppose some meaningful yardstick such as an adequately defined user request.

- Have the objectives changed? Even if an original yardstick was provided, has the dynamic nature of the business outmoded the specific of the original request?

- Does the system work well? This is a general review of how the system operates, looking at economic and technical performance in both the user and DP areas.

- Were the objectives right in the first place?

The handbook was published in June and is available for \$6.95 from Gambit at 53 Beacon St., 02108.

Mathematica, DP-Inclined User Can Create 99 Reports in 1 Pass

OTTAWA, Ontario - The Statistical Generator (Stag) from Information Science Industries Ltd. (ISI) enables the user strong in math or DP, but not necessarily both, to create programs to produce as many as 99 reports, in one pass of the system.

Stag is a Cobol source program generator using specifications taken from a simple worksheet that defines and arrays four dimensions for each data set to be used. Existing file and data declarations are utilized and different format multi-line input can be defined, ISI said.

The use of arrays to define the data items, the company explained, that there is no need of sorting or other "grooming" of the input files before they are used. Stag also carries with it the availability of implicit statistical functions including: means, and vertical, horizontal, scatter and matrix percentages based on sums and counts.

There is a variable number of report layouts per pass of the master files, ISI went on, and these can be specified via shorthand notations, back referencing of specifications and the creation of variable choices. These options include variable column, table looks, arrayed subjects and ranged objects, among others.

Stag also provides the ability to specify whether qualifications are to be treated as being independent or mutually exclusive

within page, row or column. The user also has the ability to specify set totals as being created by the summation (occurrence count) or tally (record count) method.

Stag's basic logic requires no more than 12K bytes of memory, but the system's memory requirements increase by 1K per generated pass of the master file for example, depending on the space available for matrices. The software allows the user to predetermine, through a given formula, the point at which the generated logic exceeds the computer's processing limits, ISI noted.

The system is written in Cobol and has been implemented on Burroughs, CDC 160 and IBM mainframes. The source code can be purchased for \$15,000 or made available on a 12-month minimum lease for \$700/mo (Object mode), including support, or \$500/mo (source code, minimal support).

Stag is also available as a time-shared service based on ISI's own Burroughs mainframe. The company charges \$1000 per release for the basic report program; generated, plus the cost of CPU time. The user pays communications line costs but ISI does not impose any "connect time" fee on top of the CPU costs.

ISI is at 1755 Woodward Drive, K2C OP9.

The system also enables user-authors to protect sensitive sections of data from unauthorized access even though the data is part of a master data base accessible in general to others.

The Stag system has been implemented on IBM 360/370 under OS, and on 360/67 hardware for time-sharing uses. As a package for installation on a user's own equipment, it sells for \$21,000.

Mathematica, Inc. can be reached through P.O. Box 2392, 08540.

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Manual Details Steps Needed to Bring DP Project to Full Operational Status

ATHERTON, Calif. — Application planning and development groups, like DP installations of all sizes and sizes and kind of equipment in place, can use the Segmented Documentation Methodology (SDM) now being marketed by its developer, Katch & Associates.

SDM is not a software program nor a system of programs. Instead, it is a manual describing in great detail the steps that must be followed to bring a DP project — any project — from the first glimmer in the end-user's eye to complete operational status. With charts and narrative, SDM defines the steps, who must be responsible for them and why.

Needs Swerved

It also provides standard documentation forms and planned review points along the way to becoming operational, and these appear to be basic yet complete enough to serve the needs of any size organization. The large DP shop gains a standard approach to its multiple, concurrent projects; the small installation gets constant coaching on what

needs to be done next.

The documentation flow fostered by SDM uses within the DP staff but stresses the need for interaction between the computer professional and the end users they should be supporting, Katch said. It is the user, for instance, who prepares the Project Initiation document after discussing his needs with the DP staff and management.

That document applies whether the user is proposing a new application or minor changes to one already installed. The next document, User Specification, is jointly prepared by the user and the professional from DP that will work on the system if it is subsequently approved.

Under SDM, the DP staff then works through Costing and Analysis, Feasibility Study and System Design Objective documents, prior to going before a project review board made up of user department and DP staff representatives. This process of documentation buildup and review continues, but all documents must be approved at each review point or returned to the originator for rework until there is acceptance. At that time the project can go forward.

This requirement that all prior documentation satisfied each review board is vital, Katch said. "It insures that all selected parts of the development documentation later becomes part of the operations run books and user manuals. Ambiguities have to be cleared before they reach that status."

Katch admitted that SDM doesn't do anything that a good systems team wouldn't do on its own, and there are other somewhat similar packages available from other developers. But, he added, SDM does do the job — or rather, it helps the user and the DP staff do their jobs — and for that reason alone, it should be considered.

SDM carries a package price of \$4,000, which includes manuals, training, sample forms and the right to reproduce more of them, and the indefinite use of the system.

Katch is at 36 Euclid Ave., 94025.

Full Range of Reports Generated on H200s With Enhanced 'Able'

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Accountants using 24K Honeywell H200s and two disks to generate full financial reports, journals and ledgers in a single pass, and a detailed audit trail of all transaction, with a new version of the Able accounting package and programming language, from Evansville Data Processing Corp. (EDPC).

The package is said to combine standard accounting procedures built into the Able logic with user-oriented flexibility made possible by accounting language entries, to produce just the financial reports the accountants want.

Although the Honeywell version, which operates under Cobol C, is new, EDPC noted the concepts behind it have been developed over a number of years. Previous versions have been implemented on IBM 360 and CDC RPC 4000 equipment, the company said.

The latest release is said to be compatible with the earlier ones.

The special Accounting Language supports user choice of report format and content, operations such as prorations of given figures and internally generated entries to keep journals and ledgers in balance.

The major value of the Able package, the company explained, is that it allows the accountant to work in his terms, without having to convert or twist his thinking to meet DP terminology or logical boundaries.

The Able package is distributed on a disk pack and is available for a one-time charge of \$4,500 including unlimited followup, a spokesman said from 1010 S. Weinbach Ave., 47714.

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COMMUNICATIONS

Data Briefs

CRT Has Page-Size Copies

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. — Photophysics has brought out a floor model CRT copier that is said to record a display image on 8-1/2 x 11 in. paper in eight seconds or less.

The Model 100F can be dedicated to a single CRT display or can be shared by up to eight terminals and monitors, the firm said.

The Model 100F accepts standard R5 170 video signals and contains a 12 in. monitor, memory, paper, paper moving device, developer and dryer.

The Model 100F copier costs \$2,800 in quantities of one to nine from the firm at 1601 Stierlin Road, 94040.

Modem Designed for TTys

PHOENIX - Omnitel Corp. has brought out a direct dial, auto-answer modem designed to convert teletypewriter terminals into hardware, on-line communications stations for attended or unattended operation.

The unit resets itself to the answer mode after each call is completed.

A panel designed for mounting into the Model 33 or 35 Teletype is included. The unit has a variety of dial-up controls or indicators for both on-line and half-duplex, carrier detect, off hook, clear and an originate or answer selector.

The Model 4002 costs \$465 in quantities of one to four. Delivery is 30 days from the firm at 2405 S. 10th St., 85034.

Terminal Displays Stock Quotes

STAMFORD, Conn. - GTE Information Systems has introduced its new Videomaster 7850 Brokerage Quotation Terminal.

The latest videomaster CRT terminal enables stockbrokers to select from up to 17 modular information services provided by GTE Information Systems. The terminal also allows users to communicate with their own data base, as well as entering and confirming orders.

The basic monthly service per office is \$330, including maintenance, with additional charges for the terminals and various optional services required. First delivery is scheduled for 1974.

CCM Offers Rate Analysis

RAMSEY, N.J. - The Center of Communications Management, Inc. has prepared an analysis of AT&T's proposed rate restructuring for private-line services.

Called "A New Private Line Rate Structure," the report includes sections on the proposed rate structure, on system configuration drawings, on network planning and optimization and has excerpts from the AT&T proposal.

The report costs \$30 from the center at P.O. Box 324, 07446.



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User Intermixes Devices

P-100 System Puts It All Together

By Ronald A. Frank
Or the CW Staff

CHICAGO — "What we needed was a remotely located processor that would support all the terminals that are unique to our industry. We already had 2260 discipline and protocol, a large number of 10 char./sec Model 33 TTYS in the field and our customers were telling us they wanted the flexibility to go to a 30 char./sec terminal."

This is how Jerry Zvoneck described his needs for a CRT-based system that could be integrated into the existing credit authorization system at Trans Union Systems.

"We also needed some type of local line printer and we had a variety of IBM 2770s, 2780s and 3780s in the field. What we wanted to do was interface this equipment through one box and support it all over one line rather than following

the IBM discipline of many lines, many control boxes and many problems," he said.

Trans Union operates an extensive credit authorization system between Chicago and St. Louis, and is expanding its system to the East Coast.

"We were looking for one controller that could support that variety of terminals, 2260 type, local line, 30 TTY concentrator, etc. and we would be able to provide 10 char./sec support, and 30 and 60 char./sec support also. No one in the industry had anything like that available at the time we looked," he said.

"We talked to IBM and they proposed System/3 and System/7 type configurations; we also looked at Honeywell, Four Phase, Terminal Communications, but none of them had the ability or the desire to intermix all this equipment into one remote controller," he said.

Software Costs

"We rejected the IBM approach of requiring 3270s because that would require us to change the software that drives our system, because we are still running in version zero of CICS. Going to 3270s and supporting the teletype terminals would necessitate bringing version 2 of CICS which would cost another \$800/mo." Zvoneck said.

"The implications of going with IBM were really a major overhaul of our system, but we wanted to stay with what we had in the back room and put our technology at a remote site through a concentrator that would handle all these functions," he explained.

Trans Union finally selected a P-100 intelligent CRT system from Raytheon. The CRTs can be installed in credit bureaus located far apart, so that the company's customers will enter account inquiries into the Chicago data base. The user would not detail the exact cost difference between the IBM 3270 and the Raytheon system except to say the P-100 was "very attractive."

"We got cost savings and flexibility," he added.

The company now has 138 Raytheon CRTs installed in Chicago and will install another 77. The vendor supplied the critical software for the remote controller/processors which will allow the Trans Union system to integrate its equipment mix. The software enabled the Raytheon CRTs to emulate 2260s to the system.

The credit authorization firm has a 3/10/15 in Chicago which stores 18 million accounts on-line. The central site location has been expanded to 1270 controllers but it may be replaced with a cluster front end to improve line utilization, he said.

The network operates on private lines at 4,800 bit/sec with ICC data sets. The company uses MCI lines between Chicago and St. Louis.

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Chart compares characteristics of IBM magnetic card Selectric typewriter (MC/ST) system and Redacron system. Both have communications capability.

Correction

The recent article relating to testimony given by Clinton D. Warkow, corporate communications manager for Montgomery Ward, before a Senate subcommittee contained some incorrect modem prices [CW, Aug. 29].

The company is paying \$234/mo for its new 1200 baud full duplex data sets. For its 4,800 bit/sec full duplex data sets, the company originally paid \$1,376.60/mo. This figure was subsequently lowered to \$85/mo after two years when the vendor applied a 14% discount to the monthly charge.

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I hate to tell you, Ms., but the VAD300 can be used in Vadic's Multiple Data Set or shambles switch, which have making a digital link, displaying all of EIA interface selective and serial disk drives.

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Mars 105 Handles Japan Rail Seats

Special—from Shukan Computer TOKYO — The pride of the National Railway's on-line real-time system Mars 105, well known in the Green Wave of universal leisure. Accompanying the opening of the Sanyo Shinkan Railway the 105's processing capacity has been pushed to its limit, necessitating system expansion.

The central equipment of Mars 105 is a multi-system consisting of two Hitac-8700s, but with increases in the number of train reservation handles an additional Hitac-8700 system will be installed and is expected to start operating in the fall of 1974.

The Mars 105 system began operating in January of 1973, and through National Railway's circuit network it has become possible to make seat reservations from any part of the country. The 105 system can receive 650,000 reservations in a day.

During Bon Odori, a summer festival, and the year-end holiday season, times for the heaviest nationwide movement of people, the number of calls made almost doubles those calls received. On two separate days the number of calls per day reached 1,135,000. On such occasions, the number of valid seats reaches 50% of the total demand, leaving half of the people unable to obtain seats.

The total number of peripherals used at the Green Waves is

1,300, but the possibilities of adding 100 to 200 more as well as speeding the peripheral printing rate (currently 200 bit/sec) are being investigated.

The reason for the addition of a system similar in scale to the present central processing equipment is that it has become impossible to increase drum storage capacity.

It is estimated that with the new system the current number of reservations received should go from about 700,000 to one million, and in the future to about 1.4 million. The new system is designed to handle the separation of line control from

file relationships as well as handle the processing of traffic.

Along with Mars 105 for passenger seats, National Railway is hurrying to complete "Eigoku," a system for handling freight liner (express freight) containers, and so will install Univac's U-494.

Moreover, in order to expand its passenger and freight reservation systems and to improve its services, it will make additions to its central equipment and terminals. It will advance the development of high-speed terminals and the utilization of displays along with a speeding of terminals at train stations where demands are high.

Nerem Workshop Planned On Future Developments

BOSTON — A one-day workshop discussion on the "Next Decade in Telecommunications" will be held Nov. 6 as part of the annual Nerem conference.

The workshop will present an overview of outstanding near-term technological innovations in the field of telecommunications. Included will be the effect of competition on the technical aspects of common carrier telecommunications, and a look at the potential limits of growth in computer communications.

Growth Limits

Pane moderator will be Louis Felder of the FCC who will be joined by Dr. Paul Polishuk, acting deputy director, Office of Telecommunications, U.S. Department of Commerce; Robert LeBlanc, Salomon Brothers; Thomas N. Pyke Jr., chief of the computer systems section, Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology, National Bureau of Standards; and Col. Andrew A. Aines from the National Science Foundation.

The morning session will deal with new technological developments including future telecommunications interfaces, the role of microprocessors in future telecommunication systems and microwave technology projections.

Registration fees for the workshop are \$35 for IEEE members, \$40 for non-members and \$10 for students. Details are available from Dr. R. Christiansen, Arthur D. Little, Inc., 32 Acorn Park, Cambridge, Mass. 02140.

Users Eye Specialized Carriers

NEW YORK — More than 80% of today's major communications users believe they will utilize the services supplied by the specialized common carriers in the future.

This is one of the conclusions reached in a study of specialized carrier transmission services issued by Frost & Sullivan, Inc.

As part of the study, 200 large communications users surveyed said they believed one or more of the new carriers would serve their organization. The users said they were attracted to the specialized carriers primarily by the more favorable costs compared with existing carriers.

The users said they expected the existing carriers to introduce new and improved services as a direct result of the specialized carriers beginning to offer facilities to users.

The report said MCI is the only new carrier with sufficient financing to construct its planned national network. Southern Pacific Communications, Eastern Microwave and U.S. Transport Systems (ITS) are dependent on their parent companies for financing to build their nets, the report said. Datran, which plans a national switched digital data system, is presently looking for financing, the report noted.

Users spent \$300 million in 1972 for private-line data networks and \$150 million for disrupt nets, the study said. It estimated that by 1975 users will be spending \$600 million for private lines and \$370 million for disrupt facilities. The figures include all line charges exclusive of equipment. The report is available from 106 Fulton St. St. 1003B.



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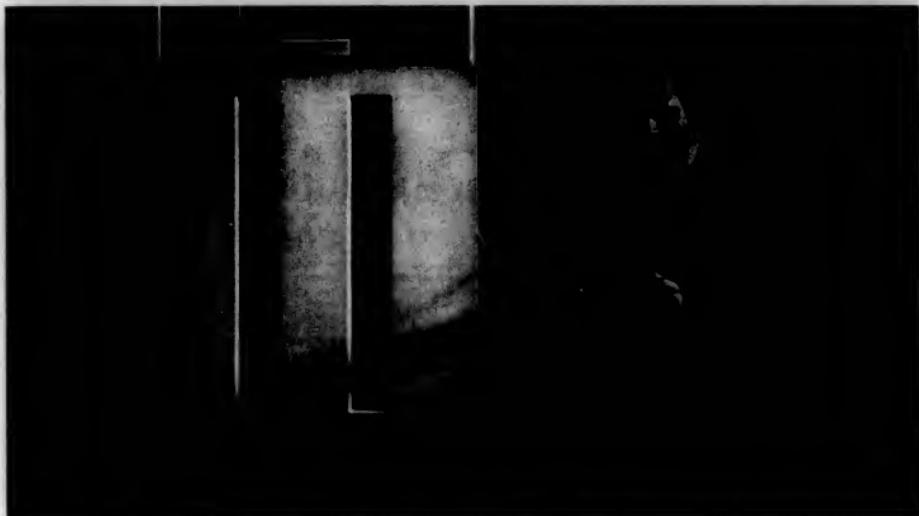
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Datapoint delivers at Executive Data

Executive Data Systems, Inc., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a national leader in supplying computer utility services to the health care field. Currently over 100 hospitals and health centers are subscribers to Executive Data's computing services for applications in general administration, patient accounting, medical diagnosis, laboratory analysis and many other critical areas. The great majority of Executive Data subscribers are now utilizing Datapoint 2200 systems and printers as on-site terminals for data entry, for data communications (to Executive Data computers in Cedar Rapids) and increasingly for on-site data processing.

Why Datapoint? "The Datapoint 2200 meets the needs of our hospital and health center clients more fully and more satisfactorily than any other computer system," notes Don Olson, Executive Data president. "Its full programmability and the availability of DATABUS, a high-level programming language, makes it easy to adapt the system to the varying data entry requirements of our clients. On the 2200's video screen we can display the precise format for data to be entered, which, combined with programmed error checks, virtually eliminates input errors. Since the 2200 is as easy to use as a typewriter, there's no need for special operator training as with a keypunch machine. During the day the transmission of data to our central computer occurs automatically, without the need for manual dialup. Similarly, needed management reports are sent out automatically from our central computer during the night to an unattended 2200 printer, ready for management to use the very next morning, when the information is really timely and useful."

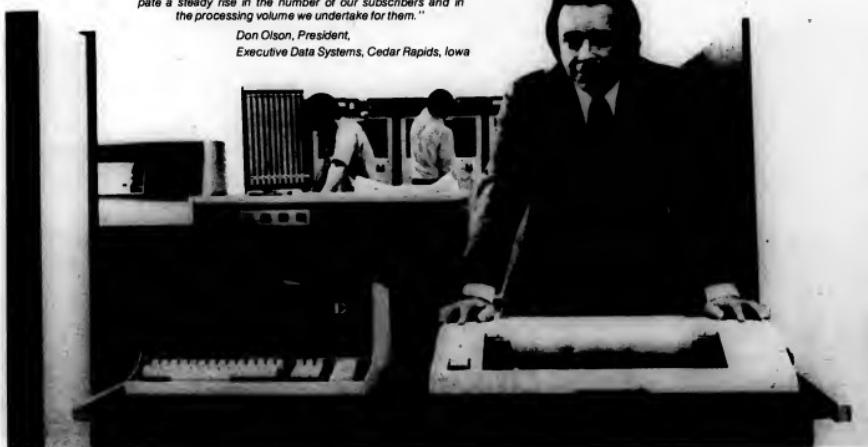
"The Datapoint 2200 has been a key factor in the continued growth of Executive Data and in our ability to provide the finest computing services in a modular and economic fashion to our clients. As the health care field grows more aware of the capabilities of our service in combination with Datapoint systems, I anticipate a steady rise in the number of our subscribers and in the processing volume we undertake for them."

Don Olson, President,
Executive Data Systems, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Every hospital and health center has varying needs for computer service, which can range from simple bookkeeping to sophisticated computerized analysis. Executive Data's approach is to provide these services on a modular basis. "Because the 2200 is a fully programmable general computer, it can handle much of the burden of editing and pre-processing of data," said Mr. Olson. "This relieves much of the overall processing load on our large central computer systems. Additionally, as hospital users grow more sophisticated and demand more and varied applications, we expect to see the Datapoint 2200 used more frequently as a supplemental independent processing unit."

The Datapoint 2200 and associated peripherals have delivered the goods for Executive Data Systems and its numerous hospital subscribers in a variety of applications in data entry, data communications, and dispersed data processing. Prices on this unique system begin as low as \$6,040. For information on how this capability can be put to work in your operation, contact the Datapoint sales office nearest you or write or call: Datapoint Corporation, 9725 Datapoint Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78284.

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Home Office: 9725 Datapoint Drive/San Antonio, Texas 78284/(512) 696-4520 • Sales Offices: Albuquerque, N.M. / (505) 225-0120 • Atlanta / (404) 458-5423 • Boston / (617) 237-2090 • Chicago / (312) 671-5310 • Cleveland / (216) 283-9329 • Dallas / (214) 936-1542 • Denver, Conn. / (203) 856-2200 • Denver / (303) 771-0140 • Detroit / (313) 964-2000 • El Paso / (512) 588-1212 • Fort Worth / (817) 733-3000 • Houston / (713) 469-4200 • Indianapolis / (317) 277-4550 • Kansas City / (816) 231-2000 • Las Vegas / (702) 733-4550 • Los Angeles / (213) 637-2877 • Louisville / (502) 265-3900 • Portland / (503) 244-0101 • Salt Lake City / (801) 272-3861 • San Francisco / (415) 732-3863 • Washington, D.C. / (202) 957-2871 • Seattle / (206) 523-1000 • TRW Communications/Toronto, Ontario, Canada / (416) 481-7286 • TRW Communications/Lysaght/Berna, Switzerland / Telex: 845-34446 • TRW Electronics-International/Los Angeles, California / Telex: 674583

SYSTEMS & PERIPHERALS

Bits & Pieces

Itel Offers Full Package Lease on IBM 370 Systems

SAN FRANCISCO - Prospective IBM 370 Series users can obtain a full system from Intel Corp. on an operating lease basis for terms of two or three years at savings up to 40% of comparable IBM rental, according to the firm's spokesman.

As an example, the spokesman configured two identical systems, one from Intel and the other from IBM, and compared costs:

The IBM system consisted of a 370/145 central processor with 512K bytes of IBM memory and eight 3330 spindles. The Intel offering consisted of the central processor with 512K bytes of memory and eight spindles. Intel's 3330 disks - 3330 equivalents.

Monthly rental for the two sample systems on a two-year lease including maintenance, insurance and taxes is \$27,510 for the IBM-supplied system and \$21,621 for the Intel offering.

The firm is at One Embarcadero Center, 94111.

COM Course for Government Units

PHILADELPHIA - A two-day seminar on "Computer/Microfilm Interface" will be held here Nov. 15 and 16 and is open to all federal, state and local government employees.

Conducted by Dataflow Systems, Inc. of Bethesda, Md., under the auspices of the U.S. Civil Service Commission, the seminar covers computer output microfilm (COM), various microforms available; microfilm systems design; and microfilm equipment.

The seminar outline promises to use computers and microfilm in combination to present a "balanced view of work now being done using computer/microfilm interfaces and to discuss the cost/benefits of such approaches."

Further information can be obtained from the Regional Training Center, U.S. Civil Service Commission, 3004 Federal Office Bldg., Seattle, Wash.

Periodical Offered on Data Entry

CHEERY HILL, N.J. - Users with data entry applications can obtain Management Information Corp.'s Data Entry Awareness Reports on a subscription basis starting in 1974.

These features "editorial comment on data entry topics, compilations and pertinent facts on new data entry systems and applications, industry information and feature sections on selected data entry products."

The Awareness Reports will be issued six times a year for \$24. Additionally, new subscribers will receive all 1973 issues free from the firm at 140 Barclay Center, 08034.

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CENTRONICS

Making Hardware Work Better—Part I

Monitors: a Great Untapped Resource

By Michael Weinstein

Of the CW Staff

PROVO, Utah - Users are going to have to make better use of equipment monitors or passively sit by and "watch" the computer system with incredible inefficiencies, according to Gary Carlson, director of computer services at Brigham Young University.

As an example of these inefficiencies, Carlson asserted, "Most computers presently are giving less than three hours of productive work out of every 24." While most computers are operating 24 hr/day, they actually execute instructions only 30% of the time. The 30% working time is further deflated, according to Carlson, by the fact that "overhead can often run as high as 40% to 50%."

The answer to these "incredible inefficiencies" is monitoring. "Monitoring will allow the user to get precise and exact measures of what is happening in the system. These measures can significantly reduce the guesswork in selecting new machine components and improving program performance," he added.

Comes in Two Flavors

The two standard approaches to monitoring are hardware and software monitors. The salient features of each are outlined in the accompanying chart.

Hardware monitors are essentially small, specialized monitoring devices that attach electrically to pin points of any electrical/electronic device.

The monitors sense electrical activity with counters that record time and events.

Probes are directly attached to the computer equipment and lead into the counters. Monitors typically have 16 or more counters and can thus record simultaneous activity in a system. Basic measures taken as starting points include CPU percent active, channel activity, channel and CPU overlap, system wait state and other activity not overlapped with other system functions.

Software monitors are specialized programs run with application programs and keep a record of system functions during a given program execution.

Software monitors cause some slight degradation in execution time, Carlson said, "but they can generate a lot of information in a short time."

These monitors can gather any information available through programming and have no set limits in terms of counters, but rather are limited by the amount of memory the user wants to dedicate to their use, Carlson added.

But, with few exceptions, Carlson said, most software monitors are available only for use with IBM systems.

These monitors should not be confused with typical accounting routine functions, he said. "Monitors can get extensive information about hardware and pro-

| Hardware Monitors | Software Monitors |
|--|---|
| Can be attached to any computer or peripheral through electrical connection | Runs as problem program |
| Requires no memory or other overhead and does not interfere with normal computer operation | Takes 6K to 12K bytes memory. Loading of program is generally trivial |
| Address easily obtained | Consistent measures always possible once program is debugged |
| Sampling rate can be controlled independent of computer or tied to computer cycles | Overhead runs from 1% to 10%; typical overhead is 1% to 5% |
| Simultaneous multiple measures normal | Easy to get labels |
| Can attach to IBM or non-IBM equipment | Address easily obtained |
| Probes can be attached to wrong points giving misleading information | Sampling rate dependent on computer cycles |
| Probe attachment takes time and skill for each measurement | Running program is no problem for CEs but makes sales reps nervous |
| Difficult to get labels | Can run only on machine for which it is designed |
| Attaching probes gets CEs and sales reps very nervous | Can only measure information available through machine commands |
| | Simultaneous measuring impossible - approach it by frequent sampling |
| | Most software monitors are available only for IBM 360 Series |

John Carlson's Summary of Differences Between Hardware and Software Monitors

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WE CALL THE 840 THE LOADED NOVA.

IT'S TOO BIG AND HAIRY TO BE A MINICOMPUTER.

By minicomputer standards, our new Nova 840 is big and hairy and costs a lot of money.

But, in terms of combined hardware/software performance, minicomputer standards just don't apply to the 840.

BIG HARDWARE

We loaded the 840 with a brand new Memory Management and Protection Unit that turns it into something far more than a minicomputer. MMPU lets the 840 grow to 128K 16-bit words (256K bytes) of main memory, and, most important, lets it take advantage of all the hairy software we've developed.

The 840 also comes with a whole list of peripherals and high-performance options, including a superfast new Floating Point Unit that handles single and double precision arithmetic at speeds that match most big computers.

HAIRY SOFTWARE

But hardware is only the vehicle. What makes the 840 a different kind of machine is software: the most powerful software available with any

computer at anywhere near its price. Proven software we can deliver today.

It has a Real-time Disc Operating System that supervises the whole system; our new Fortran 5, that produces globally optimized, fast-executing code that's as efficient as machine language; Batch; remote job entry software; timesharing BASIC; and Extended Algol.

Dual Operations on the 840 lets you run any two major software streams concurrently and with complete security: multi-terminal timesharing BASIC along with remote job entry, or a real-time control application while you're doing prototype development in Algol.

THE PROOF

With all that hardware/software muscle, the 840 has embarrassed a lot of far bigger computers in price/perform-ance benchmark comparisons.

For instance, there was the XDS Sigma 7 that was 40% faster running an independently conducted Fortran

benchmark. And then got wiped out by the 840's more-than 10-to-1 price advantage.

Or the DECsystem-1050 that cost eight times more than the 840. And was actually 7% slower running the benchmark.

If you think those benchmarks are too good to be true, just call us. We'd love the chance to give you a lot more details on the benchmarks and how Data General software makes that kind of price/performance possible.

THE PAYOFF

We know that Data General isn't the only minicomputer company with a big hairy machine.

We also know that the 840 is, capability-for-capability, feature-for-feature, consistently less expensive than the competition.

And we know we can deliver the 840 faster than the competition can deliver their machines: 90 days after you call us with an order. (617) 485-9100.




DATA GENERAL
Southboro Massachusetts 01772

Tape Good in Extreme Uses

GRAHAM, Texas — Graham Magnetics, Inc. has unveiled a new "super tape" that can be used for applications in temperatures ranging as high as 400° F and as low as 65° below zero.

These ranges compare, according to the firm's spokesman, to operating temperature ranges from +50° to +90° F for "the best" magnetic tapes previously available.

Initially the new tape, designated "Thermo-465," will mostly appeal to Air Force, space or geographic applications where extreme temperatures are involved.

But the new tape could find its way into applications where extra cost is a form of insurance against natural disasters such as fire — "for example, at the Army Records Center, where a fire destroyed large reels of information," the spokesman said.

Thermo-465 is offered in 1/4-in. and 1/2-in. widths and 1,000-ft. lengths. Price for 1,000 ft. of 1/4-in. tape and reel is \$109.37. Price for the same length of 1/2-in. tape and reel is \$229.70.

Read/Write Memories, Adjustable I/O Standard in Programmable Controllers

MAYNARD, Mass. — Four years after the first PDP-14s were introduced for industrial applications, Digital Equipment Corp. has introduced its "second generation" of PDP-14 programmable controllers.

In addition to offering as standard features available as options with the older models, the new 14/30 and 14/35 incorporate a read/write memory and the ability to grow with users' requirements by adding I/Os one at a time.

These "one at a time I/O addi-

tions" are carried out by plugging in the required signal converters and attaching the external wiring.

The maximum number of inputs for the largest system is set at 512 with maximum external outputs set at 256.

The 14/30 comes with a basic 16K words of 4K words to which a second 4K words can be added.

The 14/35 comes in only one size: 8K words of memory. Cycle time for both units is 2.5 msec per 1K word of control program, a spokesman said.

Released with the newer controllers is the portable VT14 programming terminal that displays all control circuits on a video display screen. In operation, the control engineer plugs the control terminal into either system and enters the control system schematic in terms of relay diagrams, one output at a time.

The control engineer enters the ladder diagrams, contact by contact, making the required connections. Ladder diagrams with 10 contacts in series and up to eight contacts deep can be displayed in a matrix of up to 80 contacts and 100 points.

Price for the new systems begins at \$3,600 with the programming terminal priced at \$5,990. First deliveries are expected for November of this year.

Display Controller Has Own Memory And Bus Readout

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Direct readout from parallel data peripherals such as paper tape, keyboards and card readers is provided by Series RO200C Parallel Display Controllers, available from Ann Arbor Terminals, Inc.

The Series RO200S provide data display from a computer data bus and operate with 7-bit parallel Ascii data at up to 1,620 char/sec asynchronous. It has full cursor control, plus an MOS dynamic refresh memory which stores up to 1,920 characters — a full screen.

A display set of 64 alphanumeric characters is provided with display formats up to 80 characters by 24 lines.

Data is stored, and the underline-type cursor is positioned under control of a memory address register in the controller.

Eight different character sets operate on the memory address register to effect the specified cursor movement. Each entry overwrites the character previously displayed at that position.

Output is composite video with an optional TV output capability that enables the controller to drive standard TV sets. Multiple monitors can be daisy-chained.

Prices of the three models are determined by the character format capabilities. The RO204C (32 by 16 format) costs \$790; the RO206C (80 by 16 format) costs \$940 and the RO208C (80 by 24 format) costs \$1,070. All units are available from the firm at 6170 Jackson Road, 48103.

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COMPUTERWORLD

CW SPECIAL REPORT

★ The Input Revolution ★

September 26, 1973

SPECIAL REPORT - Page 27

On-Line Systems Fast Replacing the Punched Card

Messengers who deliver stacks of punched cards to DP centers are fast being replaced by on-line data entry systems. This special report looks at some of these new input systems and the users who are implementing them.

•Point-of-Transaction Terminals Capture Retail Sales at Source

With the increasing trend among DP users to capture data at the source, some very important changes in the way information is gathered are also emerging.

When computers were relatively new on the business scene it was the accepted practice for DP users to bring the data to a special information gathering department. Here data brought in on magnetic formats was converted into card form, then the familiar key-punching operation. But as terminals/communications technology advanced, it became clear that important cost and time advantages could be achieved if the data to be processed could be captured at the source of the transaction.

Probably the largest of the burgeoning point-of-knowledge centers is the retailing industry. Usually called point-of-sale, this process involves the installation of a teletypewriter at a retail sales counter that has the capability to perform many separate functions.

The most obvious operation, the POS system performs is to total up the sale and provide the clerk with a cash drawer to store until the next change. But many of these systems also closely monitor inventory levels and provide credit authorization capabilities.

Most POS systems require a minimal amount of training and in retailing, where personnel turnover is high, this can be important to the user. Additionally, with conventional registers, cash drawers are not unusual in the retail store. Many of these shortages are caused by human error rather than planned theft but either way they pose a major headache for store management.

The POS system eliminates much of this problem. With all transactions run on a processor, either on-line with the terminal or later in batch mode, the margin for error is greatly reduced.

Optimum Terminal

At a recent conference of the National Retail Merchants Association, Harry Schreiber, a POS expert with Peat, Marwick & Mitchell, described the optimum

terminal as including "internal programmability, a tutorial keyboard, the ability to perform calculations and extensions, handle credit authorization, do check digit verification, require digit entry enforcement, capture data, have communications capability, perform automatic code reading, and also perform all traditional retailing functions."

According to EDI Industry Report (EDIIR), published by International Data Corp., this ideal type of POS terminal brings two types of immediate savings to the user. First, the user has people savings in clerical, accounting and purchasing operations. These savings, plus the increased speed in handling customers, can add up to "to nearly conservatively estimated \$44,000 per 10,000 employee hours in a store's total operation."

(Continued on Page 28)

•Funds Transfer, Food Checkout Among Growing POS Applications

Two areas in which on-line point-of-transaction systems are growing are banking and supermarkets.

In banking, the major transactions are called Electronic Funds Transfer Systems (EFTS) and the goal of this approach is to eliminate the shuffling of paper that occurs when checks are passed between banks.

There are, of course, other types of transactions involved with EFTS such as instant credit authorizations and electronic check cashing, but the primary goal is the elimination of the paper document.

The problem is huge. Most checks are processed by reading the MICR records imprinted on the bottom, and more than 20 billion documents of this type were processed in 1972, according to the *Auerbach Reporter*. The volume of checks is growing at 7% annually and is expected to reach 30 billion in 1980, the publication predicted.

The control problems associated with EFTS are "monumental," according to Art Lemay, president of Savings Management Computer Corp. As a service company for savings banks, SMCC is vitally concerned with the importance of automating the banking system.

But a start has already been made, Lemay said. More than 98% of the savings banks in the Boston area are already operating on-line for passbook transactions and other operations while only 25% of the commercial banks have taken that step, he pointed out.

One of the most pressing needs for EFTS is in the bank card credit plans. Many banks which follow this type of credit plan have had high losses from "hot" cards and other fraudulent activities, Lemay said.

One of the attractive points of these card plans is that the cost of the transaction is paid by the merchant. This makes it easier for bad transactions to occur since there is no initial fee associated with obtaining the card, Lemay said.

The banks would like to cut their losses from these bad credit transactions, and on-line authorizations are becoming a

(Continued on Page 28)

If You Can't Bring Data to the CRT...

...Take CRT Around Factory Floor

CLEVELAND — If you can't bring the data to the CRT then the best plan is to bring the CRT to the data.

That is the approach at Bobbie Brooks Inc., a national clothing manufacturer. The firm controls a two million yard fabric inventory, central cutting of more than 13,000 dozen garments weekly, plus the preparation of 2,500 invoices daily. One of the biggest problems is accurately keeping track of the inventory. When yard goods arrive at the factory, they are sitting at a desk-top CRT physically inspects the material to be sure it coincides with the data listed on shipping documents.

The CRT is mounted on a fork-lift truck, and the operator can travel through the aisles inspecting the goods, according to David Daily, director of manufacturing information services. Cables are run overhead to allow the CRT to get

power and other required interfacing wherever the fork lift travels, he explained.

Much of the up-to-date data gathering is based on the Bunker Ramo 2200 CRTs which the firm uses on-line with its IBM 370/145 computer. Since hard-copy answers are required, the company uses Memorex 1250 receive-only printers.

Bobbie Brooks has about 45 CRTs

which handle 15,000 inquiries per day

dealing with all phases of the production distribution cycle. The CRTs are used for order status, inventory records, order file maintenance, on-line updating and similar operations.

The CRTs on fork lifts allow the direct entry of permanent storage locations, thus updating inventory files in addition to confirming shipping data. This helps to reduce situations where yard goods available in inventory cannot be located, Daily said. The inventory is often time perishable in that it must be used before it spoils.

CRT requests by production control offices for cutting orders generate combined cutting orders and shipping bills of materials which are initiated by the 145 and printed out on the 1250 printers.

Order status inquiries are entered on the displays and answered on-line either from the CRT screen or with a hard copy. The prints are interfaced with the same control unit that operates the CRTs.

Before installing the present system, the company manually posted records or used a punched card system. "Handling 12,000 to 15,000 punched cards per day was a tremendous chore. We had no



Delores Kenney operates CRT display, connected to one of the Memorex 1250 on-line communications terminal printers used throughout the Bobbie Brooks production-distribution system.

immediate reference to our computer. At best, information was updated 24 hours after it was requested."

Data entry is now on-line and the errors inherent in keypunching have been eliminated, he said. The time-consuming manual forms have been drastically reduced and the company has been able to discontinue the use of numerous keypunches, verifiers, an I430 CPU, and a 402 electronic accounting machine, he added.

The on-line system is operational 18 hours per day, and the data base runs under DOS with a 600M byte disk file. The Bobbie Brooks DP staff wrote all the software for the system including the teleprocessing monitor that runs the CRTs and printers.

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Terminals Capture Retail Data at Source

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The savings in reduced cash register shortages are "slightly higher than people savings," according to EDPI/R, but on the debit side the hardware cost is quoted "as more or less a washout in new construction with POS possibly costing a fraction more than conventional systems."

The main benefit of the POS system "lies in its ability to closely control inventory and monitor department and store-wide sales activities," according to the *Auerbach Reporter*, issued by Auerbach Publishers, another DP research firm.

Timely Action

"Better inventory control can result in reduction of markdowns as well as out-of-stock conditions. Timely information on department and store sales activities allow store and corporate management to take timely action to improve business operation," the *Reporter* said.

EDPI/R estimates that there will be 35,000 POS installations in "general mer-

chandise stores by year-end 1973." It is not surprising that the largest retailers are looking to the largest POS suppliers to provide terminal systems. Sears Roebuck is using Singer, along with J.C. Penney, while Montgomery Ward has selected NCR POS equipment.

But smaller department stores have found that equipment from other suppliers can often provide important benefits. The Bullock's chain on the West Coast uses American Ropelite equipment because this company provides credit verification capabilities along with the other POS features.

One major recent development for POS users is consider the IBM announcement of the 3650 Retail Store System. Although the IBM system did not include any startlingly new features for POS customers, the obvious compatibility with 370 mainframes is important to those who already have an IBM CPU in the back room. But IBM apparently will discourage the interfacing of its POS systems

with 360s while other terminal suppliers may be more liberal in this regard.

Most POS systems still operate in local mode. This usually involves a group of terminals in a store reporting to a local controller.

With these controllers include the capability to transmit batched data collected from individual terminals. Most of these systems, however, batch the data onto magnetic tape or other storage media which are then manually transferred to a central DP center.

There are obvious exceptions. Large department stores which may have multiple selling floors, together with a DP center in the back room, can more readily collect their data on-line.

The switch to on-line operations, even from remote branch stores, is inevitable. Most POS users want to prove the value and reliability of their systems before they can take on the additional overhead associated with telephone line costs and data transmission equipment.

Banks, Supermarkets Growing POS Users

(Continued from Page 27)

must be said.

Thoughts From Home

One of the potential applications of a full EFTS system is the proverbial terminal in the home. The consumer would be able to order tickets to a ballgame, pay his utility bills, shop for the week's food—all from his living room or den.

Over and above the equipment and transmission facilities required for this type of capability is the banking question.

The customer must have a record of his transaction. Some systems have included strip printers with the home terminals, but accurate record-keeping in a fully automated bank transaction, done without the physical exchange of a check or cash with a receipt, is still a problem.

Obviously, if the paper audit trails required to follow up became excessive, they could nullify much of the advantage of the EFTS concept.

Thoughts From the Market

In the supermarket, the industry has taken the first step toward automated checkouts in which all products would be automatically scanned. The Universal Product Code, assigning a specific set of numbers to each product, has been officially adopted.

But implementation will take some time. A typical supermarket contains thousands of items and each will have to be properly marked with the appropriate symbol. And despite various announcements from suppliers that scanners and wands will be available to read the UPC code, this type of product is still essentially in the development stage.

More Sophisticated

Meanwhile, the on-line checkout terminal with data entered by the clerk is becoming more sophisticated. Most of these are only one or two steps removed from on-line operation to a CPU.

In both banking and the supermarket, the security aspect is critical. When transmission lines begin to carry data relating to credit information, store receipts, charge account balances and all the related information associated with on-line systems, the operators will demand built-in safeguards designed to keep confidential and proprietary data from falling into the wrong hands.

Nevertheless, both EFTS and the fully automated supermarket are not very far away. The technology and proper implementation will undoubtedly be combined.

IBM's POS Entry Affects All Users

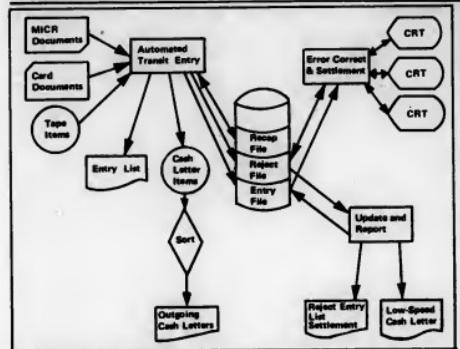
The entry of IBM into the point-of-transmission field has some important ramifications for all computer users, according to *Newscast*, a publication of Datapro Research Corp.

The IBM introduction represents another affirmation that today's EDP action is at the remote terminal location where the automatic data capture, input and remote processing functions represent the biggest problems to be solved and the areas of largest potential savings for users, the publication said.

"Automated data acquisition/entry, distributed processing, and of course, teleprocessing, or eventual communication with the readily accessible databases of the central computer system, are where the important system development advances are taking place these days," *Newscast* said.



Meet the family.



CRT Keyboard Speeds Reentry Of Rejected MICR Bank Checks

WALTHAM, Mass. — CRT/keyboard entry of rejected MICR items is helping Baystate Computer Center handle up to 500,000 checks per day.

Baystate is a complete DP service center for Massachusetts banks and one of its primary services is the processing of checks. The documents are fed through IBM 1410 MICR readers and the rejected items are separated and later reentry into the computerized system.

The rejected checks were originally handled by keypunch operators who had to punch a card containing all the MICR characters appearing at the bottom of a check. Often this operation required up to 30 characters per check.

Baystate has sped the processing of rejected MICR items by introducing a CRT system. The first step in this transition was the installation of a Periphonics Corp. T-Comm 7 front-end processor. This allowed the company to combine its

audio response system (used for another application) with the CRT check reentry operation. The T-Comm front-end replaced an IBM 7700 and a 2701 line controller and combined both functions into one unit, according to Ken Sullivan, vice-president at Baystate.

The front-end interfaces with a C-Pac 3370 video display system from Periphonics which gives the clerks handling rejected MICR items on-line capability with the dual DOS 370/145s at the DP center.

Exception File Generated

As checks are rejected by the MICR reader, an exception file is generated in the on-line 2319 disk storage operating with the IBM 1410. The rejected documents are then taken to a Baystate clerk who calls up each rejected check onto the CRT screen. The display cursor moves immediately to the beginning of the record that was not read by the MICR reader.

The clerk looks at the check and determines why the document was rejected, enters the proper characters to complete the record, and the file for that particular batch of checks is automatically updated.

Among the benefits of the CRT system, Sullivan cited the elimination of the key-punch operation, faster reconciliation of batch totals, and the elimination of a second card entry into the system and a second reconciliation.

Baystate originally had six IBM 129 keypunches. But the operation is now run on four CRTs installed at the site. The displays are supplied by Periphonics which in turn are supplied by Periphonics which is in turn supplied by Periphonics Inc. for inclusion in the C-Pac 3370 system.

The transit entry system (as Baystate officially calls it) also includes four remote CRTs operating with Bell 202C data sets over private lines at 1.200 bit/sec. The teleprocessing software includes the Periphonics input/output control system (Perios) which has allowed the company to eliminate the IBM Bstar access method

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CW Photo by Ronald A. Frank

Checks rejected by MICR readers are reentered into system by Mary Pisacane at Baystate Computer. CRTs help speed the processing of rejected documents.

previously used, according to Joe Sayers, assistant vice-president.

A major benefit of the CRT system, is that the training time for new operators has been cut from four months to one week, according to Sullivan. And another advantage is that the on-line file update actually takes up less time than the CPU runs previously required to process the punched cards.

If the present system has not been installed, Baystate would have to use the IBM 7700 plus two 2701 line controllers to do the same work now being handled by the Periphonics system, Sullivan said.

About the Author

This special report was prepared by Ronald A. Frank, Computerworld's Technical News Editor. Frank is also editor of the communications section.

POS Revolution Still in Future, Marked by Specialized Systems

By Evan Ragland

Special to Computerworld

A point-of-sale revolution has been forecast for 1977 with many major corporations introducing point-of-sale products to "revolutionize retailing." The point-of-sale market has, in fact, developed over the past five years into a major segment of the business equipment industry, but the development has been remarkably inconsistent with the forecast of both the suppliers and the users of point-of-sale equipment.

Rather than revolutionizing retailing, point-of-sale systems have systematically automated some of the retail functions to the advantage of the retail user. But the complete conversion is still numbers of years away.

Perhaps the foremost contribution point-of-sale has made to retail systems to date has been in the area of credit automation. Authorization systems provided

by several different companies began to appear in the late 1960s, and by 1972 were proven to reduce the retailer's risk with substantial reductions in his bad debt, elimination of fraud, and the ability to significantly increase his base of credit card users.

Other areas of point-of-sale have developed less rapidly. The big three in retailing have derived some benefit from cash-register-like terminals equipped to input data to local store batch processing systems.

The pioneers in this area are undoubtedly enjoying significant benefits for local store management. These systems, unlike the credit systems, have not provided an interconnected data network which permits overall systems applications such as credit authorization, inventory control, management information and systems implementation.

A few stores are now beginning to add point-of-sale terminals and other types of



Clerk keys in charge account number and dollar amount to get instant credit authorization on the Regtel credit terminal. Terminals to their credit networks such as CRT, output printer and teletype units which are required in an overall management information network. These tend to be highly specialized systems tailored to the individual retailer's operating requirements. It is reflected in many ways those things that are unique to that retailer's operating system.

Customer makes a credit purchase (without a phone call credit check) and the entire transaction takes less than 20 seconds.

On the other hand, automatic reading of merchandise tickets, which holds great promise for the future of retail store operations, has yet to demonstrate economic advantages in actual store operations. This is largely because the economic viability of automatic ticket reading is almost entirely dependent upon the conversion of the entire retail store operation, which no retailer has been able to accomplish to date. There is no doubt that ticket reading will provide one of the most important financial advantages in future point-of-sale systems.

Merchandise Marking

Numerous different merchandise marking techniques are under development. Included among these are print-punch, magnetic tickets, optical bar codes and optical fonts, most of which are designed to be read by a wand-type device while the merchandise ticket remains affixed to the merchandise.

Standard committees are studying the various technologies for merchandise marking; however, in the long term it is probable a number of different marking technologies will be employed.

It would appear that the specialized system which is evolutionary in nature will be the dominant system of the future. Fundamentally, to this system, which is designed for the larger general merchandise user, will be a central communications subsystem interconnecting all input and output terminals in a real-time network. Secondary operations such as off-line batch processing, data gathering and store-and-forward communications will supplement this system.

In time, the smaller general merchandise user can be expected to benefit from the needs of others on the basis of participation in a utility type of data processing operation.

Food for Thought

In the food sector of retailing in the last several years there have been a number of system developments. As was true in the food service area, the pioneers have been unsuccessful and are not on the scene. Presently there are approximately five major companies which have introduced and are selling food systems.

The food systems do not have the advantage of a quick cost justification such as credit system savings or the individual batch processing management information that spurred the development of point-of-sale systems in the general merchandising sector of retailing. There are, however, some significant advantages to be gained if, in the food sector, the problems of check cashing, store ordering, merchandise re-marking and checkout stand throughput can be solved.

Check-cashing systems have developed along with the credit authorization systems, and the state-of-the-art is such that in most states where the consumer uses the supermarket as a check-cashing agency, the benefits of check authorization systems could be significant. The throughput problem in the checkout stand is largely a matter of materials handling and will yield more to that

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(Continued on Page 33)



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With Remote Terminals...

Accurate Input Is User's Burden

DALLAS — One of the major questions to be answered when a company sets up keypunches for remote input is who will be responsible for date entry?

At Sam F. Wallace, one of the world's largest mechanical contracting companies, each originating office or department is totally responsible for the validity of the data entered into the firm's Honeywell 2200.

"The responsibility for the integrity of the data rests entirely with the end user," said DP manager Mike O'Donnell. "We retain only the responsibility for accurate processing."

By eliminating keypunches and switching to remote terminals, the DP operation now has much more respect from other departments than it did. And more accurate data comes much less frequently; each department realizes it is totally responsible for any incorrect information which is input to the central data processing file.

Formats Standardized

The decentralized data entry concept does require control by the DP department, O'Donnell said. Data formats must be standardized and job scheduling must be coordinated to allow for priority runs.

POS Revolution Still Years Away

(Continued from Page 30)

technology than to electronics. In the food sector of retailing, the food industry's newly adopted Universal Product Code has been identified as a potential solution to the merchandise remarketing problem, as well as offering a means for automatic scanning of merchandise passing through the checkout stand.

Gradual Development

In summary, the advent of point-of-sale will develop gradually in a specialized way with a number of different companies participating in different sectors of the market. Some of the major sectors would appear to be:

- The big three in retailing
- Major full-line department stores
- Other department stores
- Specialty stores
- The supermarkets
- The chains



The Regisan reader automatically collects all data, price and SKU from ordinary Kimball or Dennison print/punch merchandise tickets. It eliminates most keyboard input of information by the salesperson.

During normal operations, the central site polls each remote terminal at least once every hour using WATS lines. The firm uses Sycon terminals on dial-up lines operating at 1,200 bit/s with Bell 202C data sets. The company may switch to another modem supplier but a decision has not yet been made.

Included in the DP workload handled by the HIS mainframe and the remote terminals are approximately 100,000 accounts receivable and a \$20 million annual payroll. In order to maintain control over data input formats, a continually updated manual is issued to the remote sites which include six regional profit centers.

Training of new operators is usually accomplished "in a few hours," regardless of the operator's starting skill, O'Donnell said. Although the input system is not online, the 2200 can turn a job around on short notice when necessary.

When a priority run is needed, a complete job quote on a mechanical contracting job can be provided in several hours, the user said, following the estimator's work. This same procedure previously took several weeks with manual methods.

• "Down-the-street" locations. The requirements for specialization in equipment, software, sales force and service indicate that these markets will develop rapidly and be particularly suited to different vendors. It is doubtful that one large vendor will be successful in supplying a general-purpose type of solution to these varied markets.

Even Regland is president of American Regist Corp., San Carlos, Calif., a supplier of point-of-sale systems to more than 15 department store chains.

Normally the terminals store their input data on cassette tape which is then loaded at night and transmitted unattended in batch mode. At the central site, the data is collected onto 7-track tape in a format compatible with the mainframe.

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Remote Key-to-Disk Stations Simplify Hospital's Work

KANSAS CITY, Kansas — To achieve the benefits of source data capture, the University of Kansas Medical Center is making novel use of a key-to-disk data entry system.

Installed and operating for over two-and-a-half years, the system is required to run 24 hours per day.

Three of the system's eight keystations are operating at locations up to 1,040 feet away from the data processing room to handle hospital admissions, dietary and general accounting and research accounting functions. The remaining five stations perform routine data entry in the central area.

Whether assigned to remote or central locations, operators at each Infotex keystation independently enter data by cable directly into a shared processing and control unit. Data is stored on a disk and automatically pooled and verified before being transferred periodically onto mag-

netic tape for processing in the main computer.

Planners at the medical center dispersed

"By letting specialists at dispersed stations enter data directly into the system, we get them more involved in end results... which leads to greater accuracy... Equally important, we're getting time-critical reports quickly with fewer man-hours expended — not by faster keying as such, but through a more streamlined system." — Douglas Josephson, Manager of Operations, University of Kansas Medical Center

their keystations for several reasons. Most obviously, the move simplifies data entry

by eliminating one step in the process. Data formerly had to be transferred from a manually originated document to a prepared document, then to a keypunch, then actually keyed onto cards; now the data is keyed directly into the system from the original document. Not only is time saved, but the chance of error is reduced.

The amount and type of knowledge for efficient management also came into consideration in deciding whether to disperse keystations in the center. Clerks for admissions, dietary, accounting functions and all concerned and familiar with their specialists rather than data processing. They can detect problems which may occur right at the source. Yet, these clerks need only know how to type in order to learn to use the system. By contrast, operators at the DP department's key-to-disk stations are generally former keypunch operators.

Finally, psychology is involved in source data capture. As Douglas Josephson, manager of operations, at the medical center observed: "By letting specialists at dispersed stations enter data directly into the system, we get them more involved in end results rather than just their own specific function. They develop a greater interest and feeling of responsibility, which leads to greater accuracy and validity of input."

"It's also important, we're getting time-critical reports quickly with fewer man-hours expended — not by faster keying as such, but through a more streamlined system."

Other Methods Evaluated

Before installing the Infotex system, the University of Kansas Medical Center evaluated three other systems for its non-buffered keypunch units. It conducted a thorough analysis of the whole range of data preparation methods in cooperation with other state agencies. In particular, the center received permission from the state to evaluate both key-to-

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Key-to-disk station in the dietary department processes menu data for all patient meals.

disk and buffered keypunch units, although the study also included a review of key-to-tape units.

Whatever the method chosen, the center's analysts wanted some manner of display for visual verification of data input. The eight-station Infotex system appeared to be the least expensive key-to-disk system with such a display capability.

The medical center regards the move to key-to-disk data preparation as a progressive step. According to David Myers, systems coordinator: "Our Infotex system is creating an atmosphere of greater timeliness, especially in the admissions and dietary areas. The CRT display figures largely into this, giving a feeling of interaction with the processing system." Robert Sheridan, director of computer services, described in detail some of the implications of the Infotex system that have been in operation for the past two years:

Admissions — Recording, admissions, discharges and transfers (ADT) is a round-the-clock, seven-day requirement which formerly called for full two-shift keypunching operations on weekends as well as during the week. Replacing this with a single key-to-disk station at the front door of the hospital eliminated an extra clerical step and reduced the ADT error rate immediately from 10% to 5%.

Part of this improvement is attributed to the CRT display. One of these is mounted on each key-to-disk unit and permits the operator to verify data input. Such reduces the time it is programmed to key. Data is transferred from disk to tape three times a day to maintain files current within three hours.

Dietary — Preparing individualized menus for up to 600 patients on a variety of special diets is a daily function which used to occupy three clerks tallying information from order slips filled out for each patient. An interim keypunching

(Continued on Page 38)

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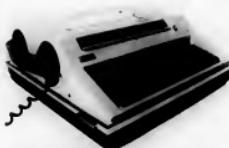
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Shared processing and control unit of medical center's key-to-disk system provides automatic pooling of data from individual stations.

Remote Key-to-Disk Eases Hospital Jobs

(Continued from Page 36)

operation, from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. too, over tabulation of menu quantities for lunch and dinner; but breakfast and weekend dinner meals were still handled manually.

A single key-to-disk station in the dietary department on the fourth floor now operates between 6:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. every day to process menu data for all meals.

General and Research Accounting — Another single key-to-disk station in the accounting department prepares data for billing, purchase orders, accounts payable, travel vouchers, etc., as well as for administration of various research funds. Processing of these functions has been segregated for closer control of files. This station accounts for 13,000-15,000 transactions per month.

Centralized Data Entry — The remaining five key-to-disk stations are centrally located in the processing area and prepare data involving some 5,000 patient charges daily. In switching from the previous keypunching operation, the medical center realized an immediate reduction in error rate from 8%-10% down to 2%; this has dropped even further to less than .05% following familiarization with the Infocom system.

"As far as projections are concerned, there's no reason, for instance, why we couldn't use the same data we now have for daily dietary purposes to maintain a more up-to-date inventory control and ordering system," Myers said.

In working towards that goal, the center has proposed setting up another keystation in several stores. Data capture from that decentralized location would represent a major step toward more timely inventory control.

The center is also planning to upgrade its data entry capability by moving to the Infocom System 1302 with up to 16 keystations. In addition, other applications are being considered to capture data at its source.

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CPU Reads Palms for Security

NEW YORK - Employees at a toy company in Brooklyn can no longer report to their jobs unless they allow a computer-based security system to "read" their palms.

Instead of punching in with a conventional time card, workers at My Toy Corp. insert a plastic card into the slot of an identimat security station equipped with a palm-scanning detector on the top surface. The scanner compares the prerecorded data on the ID card with palm characteristics being scanned and either recognizes the employee or identifies him as a non-authorized person.

The palm-reading system is made by Identification Corp., Northvale, N.J. The company has developed an encoder which can create an "authorized hand signature" based on four physical characteristics: finger length, curvature at the finger tip, skin translucency between fingers and hand deformation caused by depressing the palm onto a flat surface.

These four characteristics are combined to develop a "hand geometry measurement," according to Larry Dolan, vice-president for marketing at Identification.



Employee inserts identification card and puts his palm on identification unit at the My Toy Corp. in Brooklyn, N.Y. The unit verifies that the person is authorized to enter the area and notes starting and leaving times for payroll purposes.

In order to gather sufficient data to develop an authorized hand signature, an employee must depress his palm against the system scanner four times. The averages of the four hand characteristics are then combined to come up with a typical handprint for the employee. By taking an average of several prints, the system allows for variations caused by such factors as weight changes, swelling, cuts, etc., according to Dolan.

This data is then encoded onto a magnetic tape format and put on the plastic card together with the employee's identification number.

When an employee at My Toy is "passed" by the identimat, the worker's number and starting time are automatically entered into a Nova 1200 mini which tracks the hours the worker ends his shift and totals his weekly hours for payroll purposes.

At the toy company, the system is designed to prevent employees from being punched in or out by their fellow workers, but it also sees other applications for the system where access has to be limited.

Several potential customers are exploring the palmreading sys-

tem for use at DP installations where security is critical and access is limited.

The palmprint data is recorded on the plastic cards in a 36-bit sequence that can be arranged almost any sequence so that even with an encoder device, it would be virtually impossible to decode the data on the magnetic stripe, Dolan said.

The identimat system has also been interfaced with a DEC PDP-15 and IBM mainframes and other interfaces could be developed, Dolan said. The palm-scanning stations can op-

erate either hardwired in local mode or remotely over telephone lines. The hand signature data is transmitted in ASCII format and the stations can be interfaced with EIA, Dolan said.

Other code interfaces for Ehdic, BSC, etc. could be developed, he said.

A typical system with one scanning station costs about \$3,300 and an encoder is priced between \$2,000 and \$4,000. The system can be leased for about \$25 per \$1,000 of purchased cost per month, he esti-

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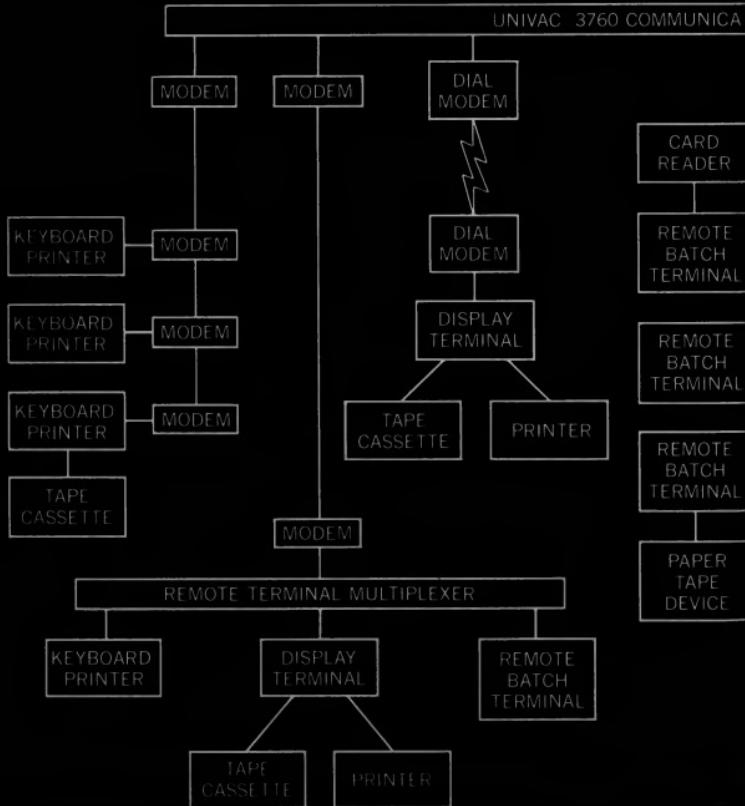
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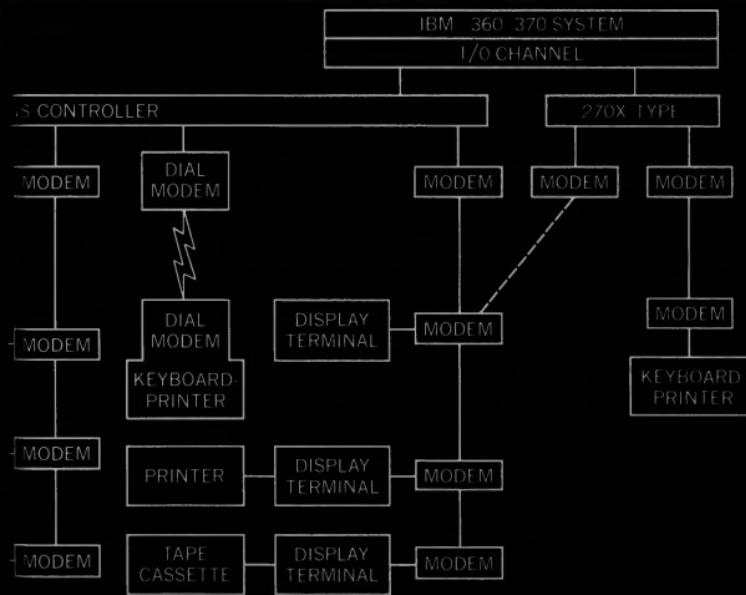
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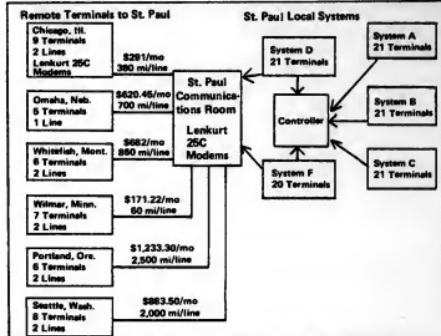
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Burlington Northern remote sites transmit data using a communications network tied to the central DP site. Local systems also share these facilities.

Railroad Tried Assorted Units, Found Happiness With Key-Disk

By Patrick Ward

OF THE CW STAFF

ST. PAUL — In 1970, Burlington Northern railroad found itself with an assortment of key entry equipment and a data preparation operation that urgently needed to be improved. The company had IBM 026s and 029s, Mohawk key-to-tape units, Univac 90-column punches and Univac 1701-1710s, and an equipment upgrade was needed.

Scanning was tried, but the firm's mainframe was not handling it well enough, said Harry Coolidge, assistant director, data production.

"We needed some way of speeding up our keying," Coolidge added. "Because of a recent merger we had a very great turnover in our personnel, and we had to have some way of improving keying accuracy."

The railroad's solution was to go to key-to-disk using leased General Com-

puter Systems (GCS) CRT terminals controlled by minicomputers.

This method offered quick data entry, but "we also did it because we felt the edits that we were able to build into the minis would stop many of the errors before the CPU accepted the work," Coolidge said.

Several Systems Considered

Burlington Northern considered Infocom, GMC, Honeywell and Mohawk systems before choosing GCS. Coolidge explained the choice:

"GCS had the ability for us to start small and build up. And it had the ability to put on more core and disk than any of the others. It also was the only one that had a decent communications-type operation that we could afford," he said.

There remain 10 locations in Wash., Omaha, Neb., Portland, Ore., Whitefish, Mont., and other locations average between five and nine terminals and transmit over Bell lines or over the railroad's own microwave lines to St. Paul. There are two GCS 216 minis which split control of the 41 remote terminals between them.

"All the edits are built into the GCS computers, and we are controlling them through a supervisor station here, so it's as if we're keying right in our own room," Coolidge remarked.

Presently the remote locations are keying in a 46,000-man general payroll twice a month. They also handle business expenses, statistical editing in some locations and similar jobs.

Three other minis handle 62 terminals in the St. Paul headquarters. These terminals handle statistical work, office payrolls, business expenses, and customer revenue and freight accounting.

"We are keying from waybills, IBM printer lists, program forms, almost anything," Coolidge said.

Reluctant At First

"I fought the CRTs because I thought the girls would be looking at them and slowing down, but I found just the opposite," he said. "Most of the girls turn down the CRT picture so they can't see it anyway. They don't look at it. Those girls know when they make a mistake."

He claims better quality in production with the new system, he claimed, and that is one reason for lower costs.

"We will feed figures into the mini-computer in advance of what an operator's batch total must balance back to," he said. Thus the operator notices an error before it leaves her, "and she has to do it key over."

If it is a keying error, the keyboard will lock up," Coolidge added.

Burlington Northern also put on a check system for employee numbers, which had previously been a big source of errors.

The result is that "we have knocked out about 90% of our verification," he said, with substantial personnel savings.

The key-to-disk system has pleased the operators in that the CRTs need only a light touch and are not nearly as striking contrast to the old Univac 1710s. Operator fatigue has gone down, he added.

Beyond this, the new system adds some job enrichment. For operators, work is no longer "just going along and hitting some keys and reading some numbers, but you also think what happens afterwards." He mentioned having to set up a program and clicking on balances as two things that now involve thought.

"I think we saved more than we expected" with the GCS system, Coolidge commented, "not only through some personnel reduction, but also in the software."

"We used to have 1710s and 1701s and 029s and . . . sorters, and occasionally 402s to do processing. We also had a DCT 2000 for transmitting data."

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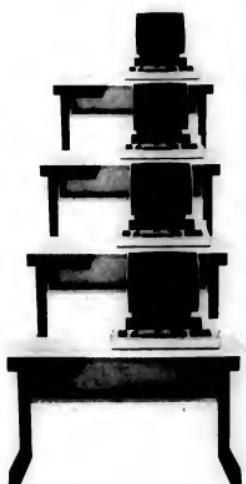
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KeyScan Multimedia Data Entry System

Not Merely Keyboard Replacement

OCR Economically Justified for Volume Data Entry

By Conrad A. Strelau
Special to Computerworld

Much has been written about why Optical Character Recognition (OCR) and Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) devices have not displaced large numbers of key entry devices as predicted by early forecasters.

Many times the justification for installing an OCR system is not the replacement of key-type devices, but economic justification based on the data entry volume and the user's system requirements. On many occasions, OCR is the only valid solution to this increasing data processing bottleneck - data entry.

Recently there has been an increasing trend in the use of OCR for this and other viable applications, and it appears that this trend will continue into the foreseeable future.

Overall, the applications that can be addressed by OCR systems can be divided into three broad classes: data entry, transaction processing and terminals.

Data Captured Optically

For the most part, data entry applications are concerned with the capture of data from sheets or pages where many lines are read. The data that is being captured optically can be from a single machine-printed font, several separate fonts, several fonts intermixed (multi-point), or handprinting.



The Recognition Equipment Input 80 processing system can handle up to 3,000 characters/second. Rejected pages that cannot be scanned are corrected on the Total entry system shown in front.

When captured, the data is recognized electronically, verified, digitized, and output in a computer format that readily interfaces into the user's downline EDP system. Thus, from a typical document, data is converted in one step directly into a form that can be fed into the computer system.

In most real-world applications, data is prepared that is not always readable by an OCR system. This data must also be captured and converted into a computer-compatible form for downline processing. Thus, the overall data entry system, to be viable, must have the capability to handle a wide range of mixed data (that is, data which is typed, partially typed or badly degraded).

In addition to contextual display of characters, words or fields on CRT terminals, these auxiliary systems must have the capability of displaying video images of rejected characters for recognition and insertion into the data field by keying. Total data entry systems with this capability are available today from several manufacturers.

The pricing of OCR systems for data entry applications depends primarily on the complexity of the applications, volume of data to be processed and unique operating requirements of the user. Data entry applications are found primarily in the insurance, government, health care, retail and automotive industries. OCR systems handling these applications are currently installed worldwide.

Unit-Size Documents Processed

Perhaps the largest single OCR application class with respect to document vol-

ume processed is that of transaction processing. This is essentially the optical reading of one or two lines of data from unit size documents (e.g., credit card invoices). This data may be in any OCR-readable font.

The vast majority of the data read in this class is imprinted carbon impressions from source documents that are manually handled extensively before being OCR read and processed at EDP centers. After being read optically, these documents are sorted under program control at very high speeds into sets for customer billing purposes. OCR transports used for this purpose handle documents ranging in weight from tissue (airline tickets) to credit cards (credit cards) at speeds up to 2,400 documents/min.

Transaction processing OCR applications are found primarily in the airline, banking, credit card and government industry segments. As with data entry, the

growth of OCR in these industry segments is increasing annually, with banking applications adding the most impetus at this time.

Transaction processing systems for bank check processing have the ability to read both optically and manually. These systems also have the capability to endorse, cancel, individually number documents for Positive Item Control (PIC), bar code for further fine sorting, microfilm, and sort documents into any one of 24 stacker pockets at rates between 1,800 and 2,400 documents/min, without degradation to the reading or paper handling performance of the system.

The pricing for transaction processing systems is totally dependent on the user's applications and specifications. It is not uncommon for large users to project savings in excess of one million dollars annually over present methods of data capture by using such OCR systems.

A third class of applications suitable for OCR devices can be broadly classified as terminal systems. This class encompasses systems which incorporate point-of-sale (POS) devices, hand-held scanners and tape-to-terminal units. Although this is a relatively new series of applications, the early results indicate that these applications will be successful and are economically justified. Terminal applications are found primarily in the retail, manufacturing and distribution industries.

The OCR industry is a dynamic and highly technological industry where advances in applications, hardware and software are reflected in new and more efficient systems. These offer the user better methods of preparing data for electronic data processing.

Conrad A. Strelau is senior vice-president of Recognition Equipment Inc., Dallas, Texas.

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garbage
yet?

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TRW's 'Validata' Helps Catch Credit Card Swindlers

LOS ANGELES - Between 50 and 75 potential airline passengers or car rental customers each day fail to make it to their plane or car. They are not accident victims, but rather swindlers who victimize a national credit validation system that has caught them attempting to complete a fraudulent credit transaction.

Known as TRW Validata, the system is operated on a service basis by TRW Data Systems Inc., Hawthorne, Calif., for 15 subscribers, "Included are airlines, the major rental firms and one motel chain."

The heart of Validata is a data base of about 850,000 records on stolen or misused credit cards, lost or stolen airline tickets, and bad checks.

The data base is stored on a Diablo disk subsystem which operates with dual 32K Data Generators. Now 1200 minicomputers. The minis are connected through

private line telephone facilities to 27 metropolitan areas.

The network operates with one mini on-line and the second kept as back-up in case of equipment failure. The system transmits data in a special four-bit Commodo developed by TRW that is said to be twice as fast as ASCII.

Credit inquiries are entered on special Validata terminals, which can be installed up to 2,000 feet from a communications interface at ticket counters.

How It Works

When a customer at a typical airline wants to charge the cost of his ticket, the Validata system comes into play. According to Reinhold Friedhoff, Lufthansa manager for North and Central America, the airline management would pay for a ticket in any way other than cash, the agent enters the appropriate check, ticket or

credit card number on the small keyboard.

"Within a few seconds, an approval message from the computer flashes on the screen — or if the card is bad, it goes to the TRW Validata Center for further verification," he explained.

Additionally, the system reveals the number of transactions the customer has made within the past several days. If that number is high, the transaction may be suspect and the card will have to be held.

The Validata terminals include an eight-digit display, 64-character buffer, and a 16-character keyboard with four function keys. Each terminal is polled several times per minute and a typical inquiry contains about 20 characters.

The data base stored in the Validata DP system contains input on stolen credit cards and other bad account information. The Validata DP center is in constant touch with credit issuing agencies such as American Express. Some of the bad account information is sent to TRW in the form of a biweekly magnetic tape update. The center also maintains TWX terminal connections for daily changes.

The Validata subscribers pay for use of the system according to the number of transactions which they initiate. Charges range from five cents for an inquiry to verify the validity of an airline ticket to eight cents for an inquiry about a personal check. An inquiry on a credit card account costs five cents. Ali



Passengers at Lufthansa Airlines purchase tickets using credit cards that are verified on TRW's Validata system.

inquiries are handled strictly by name, meaning that the names of credit holders are never available to Validata personnel.

The average hit on the system is worth at least \$1,000 and often more in potential credit losses, according to subscribers. Each stolen airline ticket that is found through Validata averages \$1,000 to \$1,500. Through its estimate of how much the Validata system has saved the airline carriers iost about \$40 million in bad credit cards, stolen tickets, and bad checks. The system has helped to considerably reduce the cost of bad accounts.

Although primarily oriented to the airline industry, Validata is being tested in a department store environment on the West Coast and expansion into super-

markets is also being considered.

The Validata network is being expanded with concentrators and the network currently includes about 600 terminals operating on about 80 interfaces.

One of the side benefits of the system is that it has actually served as a deterrent to the initiation of fraudulent transactions in the airline industry. Atria observed often note that a potential customer waiting at a ticket counter will see the Validata terminal being used and leave. Although it is difficult to prove, many of these may have intended to attempt a fraudulent credit transaction, according to TRW.

The airline industry estimates that the savings resulting from the Validata system equals about five times the cost of using the terminals, a TRW spokesman said.



"It says, 'Payroll controls do not balance because the programmer took off for Spain with the checks!'"

Who can sell computers in Japan?

Shukan.

In Japanese it's called Shukan Computer, and in English, it means "Computer Weekly." Whatever you call it, Computerworld's new sister publication is an excellent vehicle for selling EDP products and services in the large and expanding Japanese EDP market. Here are some of the reasons why:

* Shukan Computer is the leading Japanese publisher of electronics information services. With the combined resources of the two companies, Shukan has the largest news gathering organization of its kind in the world.

* Shukan Computer is the only newsworthy for the fast-growing Japanese computer community.

* Initial circulation is guaranteed at 35,000, divided about 80% to end-users and 20% to the computer industry. Circulation development methods currently underway are the same as those which gave Computerworld the highest paid circulation in field in just three years.

* Shukan is one of the active in the world's most growing EDP market. The Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has made the following 1976 forecast: 39,000 general purpose systems installed, up from 11,237 in 1971; 11,000 microcomputers installed, up from 1,670 in 1971; and 3,000 personal computers, up from 1,000 in 1971.

* Is it too costly? The latest count of general purpose systems

revealed that there were 14,800 systems installed as of September 1972, a one-year gain of 3,569 units and \$911 million installed value, a growth of 31.7% and 22.1% respectively. And more than 50% of these new systems were imported.

* Is it true that there are import restrictions. But Japanese vendors and users can get permission to import almost anything they want and need. As a result, 1972 imports were over \$360 million.

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Efficiency at What Price?

Greatest Danger to Small User May Be Upgrades

By Michael Weinstein

Of the CW Staff

Small system users many times run the most efficient and cost-efficient computer systems. Yet this may all change in the name of higher efficiency, bigger systems and the benefits from entering the exciting world of JCL.

ANALYSIS

The danger of these promises is in attacking the basic reason for the success of many small systems: by being small these users have a better combined grasp of the objectives of their computers and the operations of their computers.

The small system user's computer is generally simple enough so persons who run the company can also run the computer. In many cases the officers of small companies also write the programs.

The small system is like any piece of

working equipment; it must bring in more money than is shipped out in the form of rental — it must be directly cost justifiable.

Hard Life

Life is not simple in large companies and their larger systems. A great deal of system effort is expended just to perform administrative tasks needed to keep track of employees and products so numerous they have become numbers.

Further, in large companies the general rule is to have management filter in work through the likes of computer professionals who do not understand the management needs to come from the computer.

While this is necessary due to size and complexity of both large companies and large systems, it creates longer lines of communications between the objective and the practice of computer operations. Despite the different operational needs of the small and larger user, there is a

move under way to upgrade the small user from his System/3s, NCR 50s, etc., to the larger, faster, more complex, costlier computers.

Spokesmen for the move are vendors who argue for better technologies and

of the 370s, not only is it highly questionable that there is any value in a virtual computer with 98K bytes of real memory, but the degree of complexity of operation increases markedly. It is not clear that the small user really wants to keep abreast of the latest DOS/VIS release.

On another front, a recent controversy in the Letters to the Editor section of Computerworld dealt with the comparative merits of Cobol and RPG.

The point is not whether Cobol is superior to RPG, the real question is whether it is a better vehicle to make the computer truly work well.

Cobol probably is a better programming language, but it is also harder to code. Its implementation may mean the insertion of a full-time programmer between the user and his machine.

But despite these and other valid reasons, the move toward bigger and more complex systems in the name of promised efficiency may be successful.

The small users are scattered throughout the country and view themselves primarily as shoemakers, or importers or manufacturers first and as members of the computer profession a distant second.

The small user has no unified voice and is largely overlooked by the large associations such as ACM which themselves are enamored of the bigger and better concept.

Who Wants to Join?

There are groups that exist solely for the small system user, but many users do not see the need to join.

This isolated bias may someday change very drastically — for example, when and if IBM decides to stop support of RPG or comes out with some new technology that is both demonstrably superior and tied to upgrading to a new generation of computers.

Small User Builds Meat Processing Turnkey System

HAYWARD, Calif. — Most small computers take up too much space, use too much power, and cost too much. Jess Siranni understood this and decided to build a turnkey system, apply it to his own business's needs and stop there. Jess Siranni went one step further and turned his DP efforts into a paying business.

Siranni understood the meat packing industry and felt the essential ingredient for success was the ability to have quick and accurate supply and demand information coupled with the ability to react quickly to ever-changing government audits of prices and profits.

The obvious tool to obtain this efficiency was the small business system, he felt. But the builders of small systems only understood computers; they had little knowledge of meat packing.

Thus, Siranni effected a marriage between himself and Qantel Corp. with the first offspring being the Meat Information Management System (MIMS).

Software Converted

Siranni took the standard Qantel software and converted it with Qantel's help to perform specialized functions. Included in the new software is a program that tells the packer how much to charge for his meat to realize government-directed profit levels.

The total system runs on a Qantel Answer central processor with 8K words (8-bit word) of memory. Peripherals include two tape drives, a 100 line/min printer and IBM 2741 Selectric type writer terminal.

The entire system including software costs around \$37,000 from Qantel at 3474 Investment Blvd., 94505.

The Small Systems User

some from within the ranks of the small system users who take up the cry for the riches of higher-level languages and operating systems.

Two Prime Examples

IBM has introduced the 370/115 and 370/125 as potential upgrade machines with the promise of "virtual memory" and its implication of something for nothing.

As for moving to the wonderful world

If you have a voice in company training, you have a responsibility to ask yourself these questions:



- 1) Is the cost effectiveness of your present training efforts acceptable?
- 2) Is it possible to put your internal and customer programs in multi-media format, thus decreasing training costs and insuring standardization?
- 3) Are you now conducting training programs but lack certain methods, materials or instructors?
- 4) Is there a gap between company goals and technical capabilities, i.e. need for updating skills in Data Base Management, Data Communications, Business Systems Analysis and Design, Virtual Storage, Project Management, etc.?
- 5) Is your in-house training capability providing the quality and productivity levels you require?

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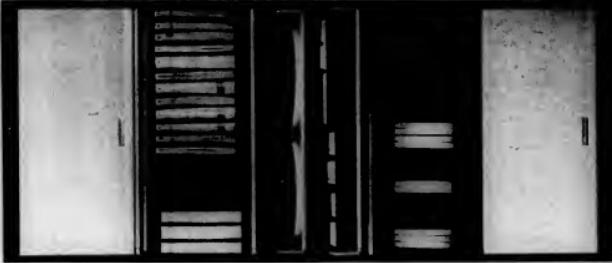
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Calendar

Oct. 1-3, Boston - ACM Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages. Contact: J.D. Ullman, Department of Electrical Engineering, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. 08540.

Oct. 4, Ithaca, N.Y. - American Records Management Association seminar, "Challenge to Change." Contact: Richard Strasberg, 144 Ives Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

Oct. 8-10, Iowa City - SIAM-PIA Joint Annual Meeting.

Contact: SIAM, 33 S. 17th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19103.

Oct. 8-11, San Francisco - Honeywell Users Group. Contact: Robert Buckingham, Texas Eastern Transmission Co., P.O. Box 1612, Shreveport, La. 71130.

Oct. 14-18, St. Louis - Usidc, "Why not COM?" Contact:

Frank Henkel, P.O. Box 2449, San Diego, Calif. 92112.

Oct. 15-17, Iowa City - Switching and Automatica Theory Symposium, sponsored by IEEE/CS and University of

Processing of Remotely Sensed Data. Contact: C.D. McGillen, Lab for Applications of Remote Sensing, Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Ind. 47907.

Oct. 17-19, Bermuda - GCCA Computers in the Printer-Publisher Relationship. Contact: Nancy Harris, GCCA/PIA, 1730 N. Lynn St., Arlington, Va. 22209.

Oct. 18-19, Las Cruces, N.M. - 4th Annual Sjocoin Symposium. Contact: J.M. Mann, New Mexico State University Computer Center, Box 3AT, Las Cruces, N.M. 88003.

Oct. 18-19, Ames, Iowa - Computer Science and Statistics 7th Annual Symposium on the Interface, cosponsored by ACM. Contact: William J. Kennedy, Department of Statistics, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50010.

Future Trends Topic of HUG Fall Meeting

SAN FRANCISCO - A keynote address on "Future Trends in Data Processing" will kick off the Honeywell Users Group's (HUG) fall meeting, Oct. 8-11, at the Jack Tar Hotel here.

The four-day program will include parallel user workshops on MOD1, OS/2000, MOD4, MOD8 and Fortran. Also on the agenda are parallel special interest sessions on manufacturing, distribution, scheduling and federal systems users.

Further information is available from Robert Buckingham, Texas Eastern Transmission Co., P.O. Box 1612, Shreveport, La. 71130.

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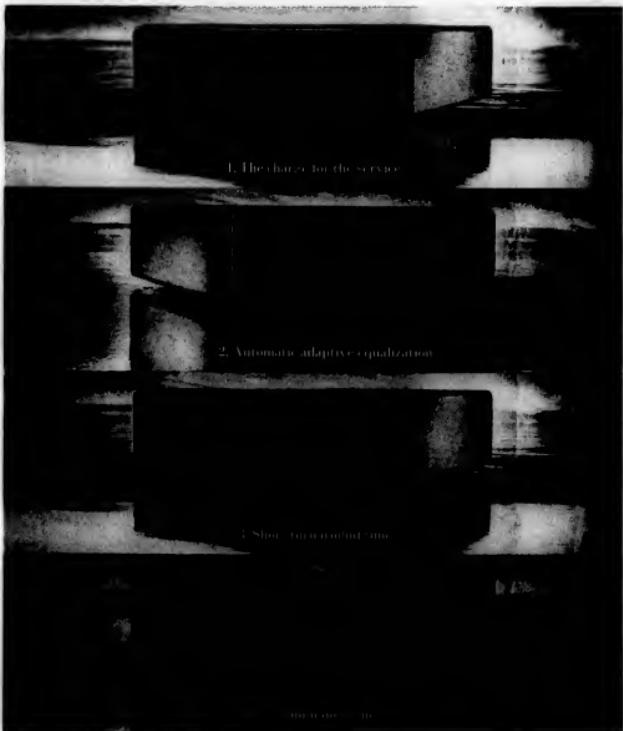
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Third-Party Leasing — Part II

What About Extensions, Maintenance?

By Thomas E. McCormick
Special to Computerworld

There are several areas of standard DP contracts which the user should carefully review to afford himself the best advantages.

For example, 24- to 48-month leases are generally more desirable than longer-term leases unless the lease terms permit subleasing or relocation of the equipment when it is outgrown, or when more economical equipment becomes available.

The user should realize that every item in the contract need not be leased for the same number of months. There is no good reason to enter a three-year lease which includes maintenance

which includes maintenance since such items are generally not subject to price protection or to a better price for a longer commitment. That may commit the customer to a 36-month obligation at the one-month price.

Provision should be made for automatic month-to-month extension beyond initial period unless either party requests termination. The lessor should try to negotiate some flat percentage decrease in payments for each extension. This could effectively carry forward the price protection of the initial period if the extension period lease rates are made at some percentage of the original period rates, i.e. 95%.

Naturally, if the lessor finds the price unattractive to him after the initial term of the contract, he may cancel it.

If the contract is not to be extended automatically, a cancellation notice should still be specifically required by one party.

Equipment changes and items with different term expiration dates may occur within one contract. The user may, by oversight, lose track of when the contract expires for certain items; or a clerical error might result in equipment being incorrectly scheduled for removal. A user will want to be assured of receiving a notice and reasonable lead time before equipment is removed by a leasing company.

Monthly charges should be handled on an item-by-item basis. This means that the lease prices are detailed rather than lumped into one or a few prices. No-charge items should be specified and treated as the other items. It should be clearly stated that cancellation or change of any item or items does not affect any of the other items. This serves to isolate cancellations, penalty payments, upgraded cost increases, and thereby makes known to the customer for purposes of considering changes during the contract. It also prevents an unreasonable penalty being imposed.

The user should specify that partial month's usage charges will be prorated using 1/30th of the monthly charge per day. Start and termination dates can therefore be any day of the month, and partial-use months would not be subject to full-month lease payments.

The user should also specify that there will be no additional use or additional shift charges of any sort for the hardware, metered or unmetered, if this is not specifically stated in the standard contract.

The user should specify maintenance days of the week and

hours of coverage desired on an item-by-item basis. If holiday

If maintenance coverage is required, it should be specified. It's desirable to have maintenance costs listed separately from lease prices. If the lessee enters into separate main-

lessen strain into separate maintenance contracts, he will have more control of his situation, and he will avoid paying use tax on maintenance in some states.

Charges should begin only after maintenance people have certified to the user that every component of the system supplied by the lessor is operable; no charges should begin on any component until all components

COMPONENTS AND SUBCOMPONENTS

supplied by that lessor work together properly.

The user should attempt to specify that lease charges will be suspended if equipment is not operable beyond some reasonable amount of time.

Part III discusses taxes and insurance, investment tax credits and purchase options, machines, freight and installation and de-installation charges.

Thomas E. McCormick spent several years with IBM as a sales representative before becoming director of computer operations at the Seidman & Seidman National Computer Center.

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Boston Carpool Gets 'Excellent' Public Response

By Marguerite Ziernars
Of the CW Staff

BOSTON — "Excellent. Really astounding. We were amazed," These are the words of Jerry Wilson, creative services director, WBZ Radio-TV, in public reaction to the Computer Computer Clubcar, a new, large scale computerized carpool operating in the Boston area.

After three weeks of heavy television and radio promotion, just under 6,000 names are in the computer and a "realistic" full-scale program for the system is \$3,000 to \$40,000, according to Wishnow.

The service, created in cooperation with the ALA Auto and Travel Club, will furnish (for 10 cents) the names, addresses and telephone numbers of 10 people working and living near each computer.

The system requests the computer's destination by landmark or area; the time he must be at work; the time he leaves in the afternoon; and preferences as to all-male or all-female, drive-only or ride-only clubcars. The system also offers names of places to work an hour later than the computer, so he may stay late, as well as offering carpool service to major sporting events in Boston.

The system operates on "just a small IBM card sorter," according to Wishnow, except for manual sorts which are performed for destinations other than those listed on the application.

No Trespassing—Private Data

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — The Swedish Data Act that created the Data Inspection Board and codified a person's right to privacy in computerized systems [CW, Sept. 19] also established a new criminal listing — the data trespasser.

"Any person who, without authorization, effects access to recording for ADP or unduly alters or obliterates such information or includes it in a register will be sentenced for data trespassing, which carries a fine or a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years if the perpetration is not punishable by the penal code," according to the new law.

This, apparently, is the first time the theft of data or the alteration of records kept in DP systems has been made a crime anywhere in the world. In most previous cases, the person whose information was stolen had to prove the value of the information so the case could come under the larceny statutes.

Microfilm Retrieval System Speeds Fingerprint ID for New York Police

NEW YORK — An anticrime microfilm system that has been running successfully on a trial basis in Queens County since March has been ordered made available to the New York Police Department in every borough by October.

The system, called Mirasquare, consists of an optical scanner, microfilm retriever and a CRT screen and is used to identify fingerprints and "mug shots."

About 60 persons a day are arrested in Queens, according to Detective Albert Frommett of the 10th Precinct. With the Mirasquare system, fingerprints are taken of each person arrested and each print is given a three-digit code — the first digit designates the pattern of the fingerprint, the second digit designates the number of lines in the pattern and the third digit describes the core of the fingerprint, the

exact center of the pattern. The codes are put on the microfilm. "Latent" fingerprints, those found at the scene of a crime, can then be analyzed and searched according to the three designations at the rate of 6,000 prints in 15 seconds, according to Frommett.

In addition to fingerprints, the system stores photographs of arrested persons, with the ability to search 600 photographs in 15 seconds, looking for particular characteristics, Frommett said.

A spokesman for the chief of detectives office said the city is considering offers from a number of companies for the city-wide installations but declined to name the companies. He said the October deadline is contingent on the hiring and training of new personnel for the system.

The Queens system is made by Eastman Kodak.

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 - IBM's plans for the "death" and replacement of 370 models — and data about their successors. (A unique feature that everyone should read and understand.)
 - IBM's use of error-containing hardware for part of the 370 line — hardware that was supposed to be scrapped.
 - And much more.

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COMPUTER INDUSTRY

'But Who Will Enforce It?'

Industry Jubilant Over Decision

By E. Drake Lundell Jr.
Of the CW Staff

TULSA, Okla. — Like a dying man given a new lease on life, the independent peripherals industry reacted jubilantly to the decision handed down last week in the IBM-Telex antitrust case.

"We're all two feet off the ground," said

Dan McCork, president of the Computer Industry Association, which counts several independent peripherals firms among its members.

The decision will be a tremendous boost for the computer industry as a whole and will allow small suppliers to remain viable in the business, McCork said, thereby offering users a wider choice of equipment.

In addition, the decision will make it easier for capital-starved plug-compatible equipment manufacturers to get financial backing, he said, because the financial community will no longer fear IBM actions.

Not All Rosy

But while the reaction was generally one of jubilation, there was some concern over how IBM would implement the judge's orders and some feared IBM might try to circumvent the orders. There was also concern over what new tactics IBM might take against the competition.

"I think the decision is great," one source said, "but I'm not sure who is going to enforce it and if that enforcement will be effective. If it is, great, if not, well I don't know."

Another who admired the decision indicated he was only worried over what new

Firms Have Suits in Their Eyes

TULSA, Okla. — The possibility of several firms filing antitrust suits against IBM took an upturn last week with the decision in the IBM-Telex case.

Several firms in the independent peripherals area have been watching the Telex case closely and now can be expected to file their own suits.

Intel Corp. admitted last week it was "studying the alternatives" on filing a suit and would make a decision soon, while Calcomp felt it would also study the possibility of filing an action against IBM.

Memorex, reported to be studying the possibility of a suit against IBM, would not comment last week.

"We'd be fools not to sue," one independent said. "If the Telex case holds up on appeal. We were damaged as much as they were by IBM's practices."

In addition, several sources noted other independent peripherals companies could use the large amount of formerly secret IBM internal documents uncovered by Telex if they filed new suits — saving a great deal of time and trouble.

polices IBM might adopt to fight the decision that is outside the scope of the decision.

"I'm sure they're planning new ways to

beat the competition right now at Armonk," he said. "It will be interesting to see what they come up with in a couple of months."

Some Stock Prices Feel the Shock Waves

By Michael Weintraub
Of the CW Staff

The IBM antitrust decision fell on Wall Street like a rock sending waves through the financial community that may eventually change traditional views of viable companies and good investments.

The immediate big winners are the plug-compatible peripheral and independent memory builders with the stock prices of leasing companies and other mainframe builders not seriously affected.

The immediate loser, of course, is IBM whose stock fell \$26 the day of the

decision (Monday, Sept. 17) to close at \$727 — the lowest point for the year.

This represents a total loss of \$3,785,158,000 to IBM shareholders — a figure greater than the 1972 sales of any U.S. firm outside the Fortune Top 20.

On Tuesday, trading was suspended for over four hours due to "increased activity beyond NYSE's ability to handle," according to a spokesman for the exchange. When IBM stock was finally opened for trading, its initial value was \$253 a share — a loss of an additional 19 points overnight.

A spokesman for a major brokerage house stated it was still too early to make any value judgment on IBM's ability to maintain its stock position on the stock exchange.

But a research analyst for the same firm was more candid, stating, "Of course, the spokesman has to say that, but a one-day moratorium from recommending that investors buy IBM to a neutral position has to mean people thinking something drastic has happened."

Another analyst at Paine, Weber, Jackson and Curtis echoed the feeling that Wall Street was feeling shock waves, but he was more conservative in his analysis.

"The decision is very important, but people tend to forget IBM is still extremely viable and has large assets," he said.

There is still a long appeals process to go through and during that period IBM can take other actions such as radically new designs of computer equipment "that is harder to duplicate."

"The fallow may take years before it finds its way into the balance sheets of IBM and other computing companies, and even then only if IBM loses all the appeals

misappropriate such information to its own use and benefit."

"Widespread... Effort"

"The court here deals not with isolated instances of misappropriation by Telex.... We have been confronted here by a widespread, purposeful effort of Telex to secure confidential technical information concerning the design of products which were then unannounced, for the purpose of duplicating such equipment through use of such confidential information."

The judge also found that "Telex's pattern of recruitment, job assignment, production growth and compensation arrangements were so designed as to lead inevitably to the misappropriation of IBM's confidential information."

"Telex's past pattern of conduct makes it apparent that such misappropriation

(Continued on Page 54)

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"IBM has taken close aim at the leasing companies and independent peripherals firms.... I have every hope that this will stem the tide." — Roger Goetz

Roger Goetz, vice-president at Computer Investors Inc., said he had every hope that this (decision) will stem the tide," noting that in the past few years "IBM has taken close aim at the leasing companies and independent peripherals firms."

He agreed the decision should make the financial community less "skittish" about investing in smaller companies — a situation he feels could benefit all companies.

However, he noted he is "anxious to see how IBM implements the decision" and said the true effects would not be known until the new IBM policies are implemented in the marketplace.

"Who knows what strategies they can think up before they carry out the judge's order?"

At Calcomp, President Lester Kilpatrick said "Justice has been served by the decision."

(Continued on Page 54)

Judge Takes Telex to Task

By E. Drake Lundell Jr.
Of the CW Staff

TULSA, Okla. — Almost lost in the hubbub and confusion within the industry over the Telex decision were the restrictions and penalties imposed on the firm by Judge A. Sherman Christensen for its misappropriation of IBM trade secrets.

Christensen ordered Telex to pay IBM over \$21.9 million for its "planned, deliberate and willful" misappropriation of IBM secrets, a sum that should make the whole DP industry pause in its celebrations.

The Telex practices, Christensen said, were "a programmed and massive invasion by Telex of IBM's trade secrets."

The record shows, the judge said, "that Telex has engaged in a continuing course of activity calculated to induce the disclosure by IBM employees of IBM confidential information in breach of their fiduciary obligations to IBM so Telex can

misappropriate such information to its own use and benefit."

"Widespread... Effort"

"The court here deals not with isolated instances of misappropriation by Telex.... We have been confronted here by a widespread, purposeful effort of Telex to secure confidential technical information concerning the design of products which were then unannounced, for the purpose of duplicating such equipment through use of such confidential information."

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(Continued on Page 54)

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COMPUTERWORLD
THE COMPUTER INDUSTRY NEWS

Telex Will Pay for Violations

(Continued from Page 53)

will continue unless the court provides protection commensurate with the threat posed by Telex's deliberate and continuing course of improper behavior with respect to the invasion of IBM's trade secret and confidential information."

In addition to the fine, the judge also placed severe restrictions on Telex's hiring policies in the future and ordered the return of all IBM material obtained illegally.

Telex was ordered "to return to IBM all IBM documents and all Telex documents containing IBM confidential information which are in Telex's custody or under its control, and to destroy all copies of Telex manuals under its control or in its custody," which infringe IBM copyrighted manuals.

In addition, it is ordered "to refrain from hiring, soliciting and IBM employee for a period of two years without approval from the court," and is ordered to "refrain from assigning any former

IBM employee . . . to the development or manufacture of products functionally equivalent or similar to those on which such employee worked at IBM for a period of not less than two years" after he leaves IBM.

In the area of damages, the judge ordered Telex to pay \$13,776 for copyright violations, \$4.5 million for losses sustained by IBM because of Telex's early entry into the 3420 tape market, \$13 million in damages due to the advantage Telex gained from using proprietary information from IBM's AS/400 and M400 products, \$3 million for the cost of increased security that had to be used by IBM, \$400,000 for extra costs IBM had to pay to have a product made in-house; and \$1 million in punitive damages.

While the judgment was stiff against Telex's "wilful and deliberate" misappropriation of trade secrets, several sources last week indicated that such punishment may be imposed by another part of the federal court's ruling.

In that, he ordered IBM to reveal the specifications for its interfaces either when products were announced or when they were released to manufacturing or production.

"If that had been in effect three years ago, Telex would not have had to go to the trouble it did to find out what IBM was doing," one source noted.

Independents Jubilant Over Court's Decision

(Continued from Page 53)

Kilpatrick also noted the decision would make the financial community less leery of investing in the independent peripherals producers, but he said the decision would probably not draw many new companies into the business because there still might not be enough financial backing for new entries.

Gary Friedman, president of IEL's computer operation, said his reaction to the decision was "definitely positive" and said the judge showed "a very clear understanding of the problems in the business."

"If the injunctive relief stands up on appeal, this decision will definitely open up competition in this industry," he added.

CDC Feels Settlement With IBM Was Fair

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Control Data Corp. President William Norris, whose firm settled its antitrust suit against IBM out-of-court several months ago, stated it would be inappropriate for him to discuss the merits of the Telex decision other than to state that CDC had long been an advocate of the actions taken by the Justice Dept.

In retrospect, Norris stated he had no misgivings about the fact that CDC and IBM settled out of court. "I stated at the time and still feel the settlement between us and IBM was equitable to both sides," he said.

Service Analyzes IBM Antitrust Cases

NEWTONVILLE, Mass. — The IBM Litigation Reporting Service, a subscription service that keeps members of the legal profession in the computer industry apprised of developments in the current antitrust cases in which IBM is defendant, has been announced by International Data Corp., a computer industry research firm.

Initiated this month, the service offers analyses and commentaries concerning the more significant events in the litigation of antitrust complaints filed against IBM by the Telex Corp., Greyhound Computer Corp., and the U.S. Department of Justice.

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The Judgment and Decree

FILED
SEP 17 1973
Jack C. Silver, Clerk
U.S. DISTRICT COURT

In the United States District Court
For the Northern District of Oklahoma

The Telex Corp. and
Telex Computer Products, Inc.,

Plaintiffs,

No. 72-C-18
No. 72-C-89
(Consolidated)

vs.
International Business Machines
Corp.

Defendant
Judgment and Decree

The issues having been duly tried to the court, findings of fact having been made, and conclusions of law having been entered now, accordingly:

It is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed:

1. That plaintiffs, The Telex Corp. and Telex Computer Products, Inc., have and recover judgment of and from the defendant International Business Machines Corp. in the sum of \$352.5 million, after the found actual damages have been trebled because of law, together with interest and attorney's fees, the amount of such attorneys' fees to be reserved for future determination.

2. International Business Machines Corp. is hereby permanently enjoined from enforcing or collecting any contractually specified penalty payments which it otherwise might be entitled to collect, because of termination upon 90 days' notice of any long-term lease agreements heretofore entered into between IBM and any of its end-user customers, including but not limited to IBM's Fixed Term Plan leases, Extended Term Plan leases and Term Lease Plan leases.

For a period of three years from and

after the date of this judgment, International Business Machines Corp. is enjoined and prohibited from including in any lease agreement for electronic data processing products for terms in excess of 90 days any provision requiring payment of any liquidated damages or penalty because of the customer's earlier termination of said lease agreement.

3. At the time of a product announcement, including a press release or at the time of release of such product for manufacturing and production, whichever first occurs, International Business Machines Corp. is enjoined and required to publicly describe and disclose the design of the electronic interface for such product in sufficient detail as to make feasible the reproduction of such interface by other qualified manufacturers within 90 days of the entry of this judgment. International Business Machines Corp. shall similarly describe and disclose the details of the design of the electronic interface for each System 370 EDP peripheral product that it has announced heretofore.

4. International Business Machines
(Continued on Page 56)



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| Karlsruhe | Nov. 13-Nov. 15 |
| Berlin | Nov. 20-Nov. 22 |
| Munich | Nov. 27-Nov. 30 |

Christensen's Decree and Judgment in Antitrust Suit

(Continued from Page 55)

Corp. is enjoined and prohibited from single cabinets or in multiple boxes or "bundled" pricing of IBM memories with its System 370 central processing units, that is, from charging a single price for both the central processing unit and the memory, and within 60 days IBM shall separately price its CPUs and memories.

This does not prohibit, restrict or enjoin International Business Machines Corp. from selecting any particular physical locations or packaging of its products so long as these requirements and those stated in the next succeeding paragraphs are followed.

5. International Business Machines Corp. is enjoined and required to separately price its functionally different products, including but not limited to central processing units (CPUs), memories, tape products and their controllers, disk products and their controllers, printer products and their controllers and communication controllers regardless of whether it elects to place such products

in single cabinets or in multiple boxes or hereinafter fixed.

International Business Machines is further enjoined and required to set its prices for all such functionally different EDP products by using or applying a single price formula based upon its over actual design, manufacturing and marketing costs as between such integrated and separately boxed products.

6. International Business Machines Corp. is enjoined from adopting, implementing, or carrying out predatory pricing, leasing or other acts, practices or arrangements with intent to obtain or retain a monopoly in the market for EDP peripheral equipment plus compatible to its CPUs, or any relevant submarkets thereof.

7. International Business Machines Corp. shall have and recover from Telex Corp. and Teletex Computer Products Inc., the total sum of \$21,913,776, made up as by the Conclusions of Law shown, together with costs and attorneys' fees in connection with its copyright claim to be

hereinafter fixed.

8. Telex Corp. and Telex Computer Products Inc. are enjoined:

a. To return to IBM all IBM documents and all Telex documents containing confidential information which are in Telex's custody under its control, and to destroy all copies of Telex manuals under its control or in its custody which infringe IBM copyrighted manuals.

b. To refrain from hiring or soliciting any IBM employee for a period of two years without approval from the court.

c. To refrain from copying any IBM copyrighted materials.

d. To refrain from soliciting or using any IBM confidential or proprietary information.

e. To refrain from assigning any former IBM employee employed now or in the future to Telex to the development or manufacture of products functionally equivalent or similar to those of which such employee worked at IBM for a period of not less than two years follow-

ing the termination of his employment with IBM.

9. Except for the fixing of the amounts of attorneys' fees and costs to which the respective parties are entitled, the court pursuant to Rule 54(b) Fed. R. Civ. P. determines that there is no just cause for delay in the entry of this judgment and that the clerk is hereby directed to enter final judgment in accordance with the foregoing forthwith on all issues except as to the amounts of the attorneys' fees, which shall be covered by supplemental judgment, there being hereby granted a stay of execution until the disposition of the post-trial motions hereinbefore mentioned, provided the same do not exceed 10 days.

10. For the purpose of fixing the amounts of said attorneys' fees, considering any motions filed within 10 days of entry of this judgment for correction of the findings of fact, conclusions of law and judgment pursuant to Rule 50(a) Fed. R. Civ. P., or to amend findings and judgment pursuant to Rule 52(b) Fed. R. Civ. P., or to alter or amend judgment or to enter a new trial pursuant to Rule 59(a), (c), Fed. R. Civ. P., a hearing will be held at the United States Courthouse, Tulsa, Okla., on Oct. 16, 1973, beginning at the hour of 10 a.m.

Dated this 14th day of September 1973.

A. Sherman Christensen
Senior United States District Judge
(Assigned)

UK Firm Seeks 40% Of Dearborn Common

LONDON — Trafalgar House Investments Ltd. has completed its tender offer for 40% of Dearborn Corp.'s common stock at \$25 a share. Trafalgar, which has received tenders for 1,534,250 shares, or more than 40%, according to Dearborn, will return any unurchased stock. Dearborn has about 2.6 million shares outstanding.

Itel Corp. has agreed in principle to acquire D.C.S. Computer Services for an undisclosed amount of cash. The agreement, subject to execution of a contract satisfactory to both parties, provides for the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of D.C.S. and the assumption of substantially all of the liabilities by Itel Corp. or a wholly-owned subsidiary of Itel.

Acquisitions

Reynolds & Reynolds Co. has agreed to acquire Diversified On-Line Computing, Inc. for an undisclosed price.

Syntex Corp., formerly Drug Service, Inc., has acquired Octal Systems, Inc. and Pharm-Assist, Inc. Octal is the developer of the on-line pharmacy system used by Pharm-Assist.

Western Union Corp. has acquired National Sharedata Corp. The acquisition was made through a transaction in which .387 share of Western Union common was exchanged for outstanding share of National Sharedata common. Approximately 890,000 shares of Western Union common were exchanged.

Tektronix Inc. has signed an agreement to acquire Grass Valley Group Inc., for about 470,000 shares of Tektronix common. The value of the transaction will be about \$19 million. Under the agreement, Grass Valley Group will be merged into a newly formed subsidiary of Tektronix.

Alpha Systems Inc. has acquired Alpha Systems Inc. for an undisclosed amount of cash. Alpha Systems is operating as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Compuser-Serv.

National Electronic Card Co., High Point, N.C., has acquired and reorganized Business Supplies Corp. of America.

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Fluctuations like those above can easily distort or destroy your computer's memory, whole or in part. They can even do damage to your computer's power supplies.

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NCR Reorganizes Marketing Division To Reflect Business Types Served

DAYTON, Ohio — NCR is reorganizing its Domestic Marketing Division into four separate departments, vice presidents to supervise marketing activities in one or more of the 10 major markets served by the company.

The move will become effective by the end of the year.

Traditionally, the firm's U.S. marketing organization has been produced-oriented rather than customer-oriented, by the nature of business the company serves.

"With the advent of new types of data terminals and the expansion

of NCR's computer capabilities, NCR is now moving its attention to total systems based on the specific needs of their industries. For this reason, we are reorganizing along vocational rather than product lines. In this way NCR customers will be assured of getting systems tailored to their specific requirements and patterns of operation," President Walter S. Anderson said.

In the future, NCR salesmen will have access to the company's entire product line as well as all supporting services needed at particular industries.

The 10 major market areas are: commercial banks; savings in institutions; retail firms including department, discount and specialty food distribution firms including supermarkets; manufacturing companies; wholesalers; hotels, motels and food service operations including restaurants and fast-food outlets; medical institutions including hospitals; educational institutions; and government offices.

Regional vice-presidents or executive vice-presidents will be regional, vocational managers who will serve several state areas.

The four vice-presidents are Herbert M. Scheine, vice-president, commercial-industrial marketing; William F. Walsh, vice-president, financial services; G.P. Williams Jr., vice-president, medical-education and government marketing; and Daniel J. McCarthy, vice-president, retail marketing.

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Contracts

Modular Computer Systems, Inc. has signed an agreement with Bailey Meter Co. for the sale of multiple Modcomp II-based single and multiprocessor systems for power plant monitoring and control applications.

Modcomp II is a modular system with real-time input/output equipment to monitor analog process measurements and plant equipment status.

Leader Corp., Alameda, N.M., has signed a five-year facilities management contract with Seattle Trust and Savings Bank. Leader will assume full responsibility for the bank's total data processing requirements and establish an off-site computer service center to serve multiple banks in the Seattle area.

American Data Preparation Corp. (ADPC) has signed a partnership and consulting agreement with G.W. Data Services, Ltd., London. ADPC will provide the British company with data preparation services at ADPC's Malvern facility.

Troy Computer Products Inc., A. Cordinia company, has received a contract from Monarch Marking Systems Inc., a Pitney-Bowes subsidiary, to manufacture the Monarch 2000 Codabar automated labeling and identification system for retail merchandising.

McDonnell Douglas Automation Co. has received a 42-month contract from Buffum's department store chain for data processing services.

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Requirements include a degree or equivalent and three to five years experience in the design of management information systems with at least two years in an on-line environment. Experience in IBM 370/155 end above and OS MFT or MVT environments preferred. CICS or equivalent teleprocessing control systems design exposure imperative.

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1

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4463

1

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4465

1

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4466

1

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1

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4473

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ATTACHMENT FOR PUNCH

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1

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4478

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1403/006

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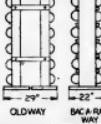
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COMPUTERWORLD

'General Weakness' Noted

IBM Worried Wall Street Before Ruling

By Michael Weinstein
Of the cw staff

NEW YORK — The Telex-IBM decision may have created the boom that started the avalanche in the value of IBM stock, but Wall Street was concerned with the stability of the mountain even before the ruling.

A wire to local Merrill Lynch offices on the Friday before the ruling indicated a general concern over the ability of IBM to maintain its star position.

'General Weakness'

A major factor in the deterioration of IBM stock value during the past months is attributable to a "general weakness of the office equipment issues," the report stated.

This weakness is compounded by a "general weakness of many high growth stocks" which "correlates with the market's concern that those stocks tend to underperform the averages in the latter stages of major market declines," it continued.

The report also warned of possible increased actions against IBM by both Congress and the Justice Department.

"The Tunney Bill may well serve to diminish IBM's chances of obtaining a satisfactory consent decree," the report concluded.

This pending bill recommends that a consent decree, such as that between IBM and CDC, be made public prior to its taking effect to allow other affected parties to come forth prior to any settlement.

"While there have been no new developments in recent weeks in connection with the Justice Department's suit against IBM," the report advised, "the potential activity would probably pick up shortly now that Labor Day has passed."

"Being a multinational company, considered a major plus in the '60s and early '70s, may not be such an unalloyed boon in the future years. Some countries are becoming more nationalistic and are tending to impose trade restrictions and certain nations are providing their domestic computer companies with increasing financial and other assistance."

"Moreover, the United Nations is currently studying the impact



IBM President Frank T. Cary in happier times at a financial analysts' meeting.

of multinationals on their host countries," the report continued.

Despite all of these warnings, Merrill Lynch rated IBM in the "buy" category on Friday, Sept. 14.

On Monday Sept. 17 the Telex decision came in and later that day Merrill Lynch advised its offices to drop IBM two positions from the star class of "buy" to the position of "neutral."

REI Posts Increased 3d-Period Earnings

DALLAS — Earnings were up in the third quarter and nine months ended July 31 at Recognition Equipment Corp., although revenues showed declines.

In the quarter, sales rose to \$1.8 million or 35 cents a share, including an \$80,000 or 17 cents a share profit credit.

The company began with earnings of \$290,000 or 6 cents a share in the year-end period, when there was a special charge of \$38,000 or 1 cent a share.

Revenues were \$10.3 million in compared with \$10.5 million in

the 1972 period, which was restated to reflect the firm's investment in Incorporation Corp., although revenues showed declines.

REI said 1973 results are reported under the Accounting Principles Board Opinion 30, which limits the types of items reported as extraordinary, but has no effect on net income.

Under prior accounting principles, REI would have reported a loss of \$2 million before an extraordinary gain of \$3.4 million, including proceeds from the sale of Docutel Corp. securities.

Earnings Reports

CORDURA

Three Months Ended July 31

1973 1972

Sbr End 8,14 9,33

Revenue 26,973,000 26,140,000

Disc Op (168,000) (101,000)

Expn 2,034,000 2,024,000

5 Mo Shr 73 90

PE, 25,351,000 26,558,000

Div Op (390,000) (134,000)

Disc Chg 354,000 352,000

5 Mo Rev 5,429,000 5,429,000

a-Related to exclude results of discontinued operations, a-From continuing operations, a-From disposition of certain assets in May 1973.

TOTALS

Three Months Ended July 31

1973 1972

Sbr End 8,228,633 8,410,164

Revenue 27,000,000 26,140,000

Loss 260,589 206,120

Disc Chg 5,978,635 6,201,198

5 Mo Shr 211,284 227,000

PE, 25,002,444 26,200,663

Div Op 257,314 128,596

Disc Chg 4,020,000 2,000,000

5 Mo Rev 4,146,627 42,930,210

Loss 250,500 763,400

a-Related to reflect acquisition.

tax credit loss, less non-immeasurable losses and writeoff of unamortized database registration costs and conversion charges. The 1972 figure includes gains from the sale of Docutel Corp. less losses on closing of computer center.

ADVANCED MEMORY SYSTEMS

Three Months Ended June 30

1973 1972

Sbr End 1,973 1,972

Revenue \$8,364,000 \$4,600,000

Earnings (495,000) 13,000

5 Mo Rev 2,134,500 6,849,200

Disc Chg 250,500 763,400

a-Related to reflect acquisition.

ULTIMACC SYSTEMS

Three Months Ended June 30

1973 1972

Sbr End 8,076,960 25,984,87

Revenue 72,336 25,987

Loss 70 70

5 Mo Rev 1,416,627 42,930,210

Disc Chg 91,842 (59,987)

a-Fully diluted.

COMPUTER USAGE

Three Months Ended June 30

1973 1972

Sbr End 8,27 9,18

Revenue 1,026,416 1,026,710

Disc Chg 231,075 134,854

5 Mo Rev 2,502,044 2,620,663

Disc Chg 257,314 128,596

5 Mo Rev 2,244,730 2,492,068

Loss 267,908 267,908

a-Fully diluted. b-In 1973, includes

tax credit loss, less non-

immeasurable losses and

writeoff of unamortized

database registration costs

and conversion charges.

The 1972 figure includes

gains from the sale of

Docutel Corp. less losses

on closing of computer center.

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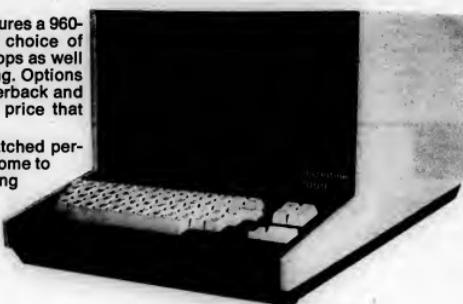
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